

# The one and only

Kevin Mantach bases his business around one truck. As the owner-operator of Mantach Transport, Kevin knows an unreliable truck could be disastrous, and admits that buying a new truck can be 'a bit of a worry'.

Last November he bought a Western Star Stratosphere from AV Trucks. "Usually you can tell at the 50,000-kilometre-mark if a truck's going to give you trouble," Kevin says. "But it's done 60,000 kilometres and I can't fault it. So far it's brilliant."

Mantach Transport started in 1988, with Kevin's father Don carting stock out of Ravensthorpe.

"I joined the company in 1994, carting water and then general freight out of Ravensthorpe," Kevin explains.

Mantach Transport once had a fleet of five trucks until they sold the general freight side of the business to Esperance Freight Lines a few years ago.

"I have now scaled back to spend more time with Jo and the kids," Kevin says. Although Mantach Transport's main focus is on livestock and grain jobs out of Ravensthorpe, the company also have a side tipper for other jobs. Kevin says the first truck they bought from AV Trucks was painted a specific shade of blue. "When I ordered our next truck, Dean Price looked up the database to find out which blue was used on the previous truck, so the new truck could be the same colour," says Kevin.

"We went with AV Trucks because we've dealt with them for 10 years and with any warranty issues we had on the old truck AV Trucks repaired or replaced without any problems."

But Kevin says the product more than anything keeps him coming back. "I've had other makes of truck before," he says. "But the cab and Stratosphere sleeper on the Western Star is as good as anything that's around and good value for the money. You can stand straight up and walk around in the cabin and it's still comfortable."

And for a six-foot tall guy whose nickname is 'Rowdy', that's saying something. ●



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