

SUMMER 2025

# DAF PARTS & SERVICE MAGAZINE

## Safety edition

“It's all about protecting people”

**Rudolf de Bruijn**

Director Health & Safety at DAF

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Driver Training — Boosting safety and efficiency

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DAF trucks — Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road



**From lighting to the right reflective parts, you have to comply with all the latest laws — and know what it takes to be safe on the road. At PACCAR Parts and DAF Trucks, safety goes even further than that. Are you doing all you can? Read the magazine to find out more!**

PACCAR Parts and DAF Trucks Director of Health & Safety, Rudolf de Bruijn, is passionate about preventing accidents among DAF's employees, dealers and customers. "We're building safety into every aspect of our business", says Rudolf, "If you're promoting safety as a key feature of your trucks, it's important to make that come alive throughout your own organisation and your workplaces as well".

Rudolf's global team works with colleagues and suppliers, advocating for safer working practices — like working with safe tools, reducing under-truck working or

making packaging safer to handle. DAF employees will benefit and, down the line, dealers' and customers' technicians too.

"Our safety slogan is 'I Make the Difference'. It's a mindset", Rudolf explains. "Rather than laying down the law, the DAF approach is to engage our people in conversations, encouraging them to look out for each other, and to recognise safety issues". The results have been impressive. Read more about this in an in-depth interview with Rudolf along with articles on safety accessories (locks, lights, reflectors and the London DVS kit), brake pads, driver training and DAF's in-cab safety philosophy 'Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road'.

**Safety — I Make the Difference, so can you!**



Experience the full magazine

**DAF DEALER**

# What to expect in this magazine?



## Night Lock and Headershef Lock

For international logistics company H.Essers, DAF's Night Lock not only assures peace of mind for their drivers, it's also a key requirement for their growing business.

[Read more on page 4](#)



## Boosting safety and efficiency through driver training

With every new DAF truck, DAF offers you training to drive more efficiently and safely free of charge.

[Read more on page 6](#)

## Plus: \_\_\_\_\_



### See and be seen

Responsible truck operators go beyond the statutory requirements for vehicle lighting by selecting from the range of supplementary DAF lighting products.

[Read more on page 8](#)



### Safety at DAF: I Make the Difference

Safety isn't about charts and statistics — it's about protecting people at every stage of truck production and beyond.

[Read more on page 10](#)



### Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road

Safety is literally designed into DAF's award-winning New Generation trucks.

[Read more on page 12](#)



### The DAF Active Caliper Release

(ACR) braking system creates longer life for brake components and can increase fuel efficiency by up to 0.3% — benefits customers like Lithuania-based Baltic Transline are keen to see.

[Read more on page 14](#)



# Night Lock and Headershelf Lock: safe for drivers and customers

**For international logistics company H.Essers, based in Genk, Belgium, DAF's Night Lock not only assures peace of mind for their drivers, it's also a key requirement for their growing business in the transportation and storage of chemicals and pharmaceuticals.**

## Night Lock for all trucks

"All our trucks for healthcare and high-value consignments have the Transported Asset Protection Association (TAPA) certification", explains Johan Cooninx, H.Essers' Senior Specialist Fleet. "TAPA requires night locks. But even for trucks without this certification, we



have night locks fitted so that the driver is safer when parked by the roadside". Founded nearly 100 years ago, H.Essers has a fleet of 1,500 trucks (including 450 DAF XG and XF), 4,000 trailers, 2,000 liquid containers and 700 dry-box containers. It operates in 18 European countries and has a Europe-wide extra security system for its own trucks.

## Headershelf Lock for valuables

For extra security inside your trucks, reach for the Headershelf Lock. Available, like the Night Lock, for DAF XD, XF, XG and XG+ trucks, it protects everything from logbooks and customer paperwork to drivers' personal items.

Explore all safety accessories





Improve your direct vision now



# Eyes everywhere: protect vulnerable road users, boost driver confidence

**The Direct Vision Standard for HGVs over 12 tonnes was implemented to protect vulnerable road users (VRUs) such as pedestrians and cyclists. The DVS safety measure is aimed at saving lives, but it will also save your drivers unnecessary stress.**

DAF's DVS 2 Progressive Safe Systems are the most comprehensive on the market, reducing the risk of accidents caused by blind spots around the vehicle and giving your drivers real peace of mind. This was one of the reasons De Haas Road Cargo in Aalsmeer (Netherlands) chose to fit a DAF DVS 2 kit to each of its DAF XG trucks.

"We transport flowers and other airfreight to busy airports like Schiphol and Heathrow, as well as directly to Germany", says Ruben Wilhelmus, Workshop Manager at de De Haas Road Cargo. "The all-round visibility our drivers get from the additional cameras in the DVS 2 kit has given them much more confidence in congested loading/unloading areas, as well as improving their safety on the road".

## **Everything in one kit!**

Our new Progressive Safe Systems suit both rigids and articulated vehicles. We offer complete kits with AI Camera Detection or Radar Detection supported with a camera.

Every kit contains:

- Camera Monitoring System
- Blind Spot Information System
- Moving Off Information System
- External Warning Device for VRUs
- Blind Spot Warning Sticker

For users who only need to upgrade an EU General Safety Regulations vehicle or an existing DVS phase 1 system, upgrade kits are available.

Don't risk accidents — give your drivers eyes everywhere and boost their confidence.

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***"The all-round visibility gives  
much more confidence and improves  
the safety on the road."***

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**Ruben Wilhelmus**

Workshop Manager, De Haas Road Cargo

# Boosting safety and efficiency through driver training

**With every new DAF truck, DAF offers you training to drive more efficiently and safely free of charge. Make use of the full package and you could save up to 10% on fuel while also boosting driver confidence. Don't miss this opportunity — use your DAF EcoDrive+ training voucher now!**

Michal Vykoukal, Managing Director of V.P.M.-TRANS, a freight transport and parcel shipments company based in Uherské Hradiště, Czech Republic, has seen the benefits first-hand. “We had an older driver who was sceptical until his son joined us, did the training and scored an impressive 98% on efficiency. With the extra instruction, the father then drove a route (both ways) with a fully loaded trailer of 15 tons with incredibly low fuel consumption”.

## **Handover and DAF EcoDrive+ training**

Buy a new DAF truck and you will receive instruction during the vehicle handover on all the new features as well as a voucher (valid for six months) giving access to the in-depth DAF EcoDrive+ training. Skill-building focuses on reducing fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), with safety interwoven throughout the theoretical and practical instruction. “A trained driver is a safe driver”, explains Pascal Hochstenbach, DAF Academy Driver Trainer.



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*“A trained driver is a safe driver.”*

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**Pascal Hochstenbach**  
DAF Academy Driver Trainer  
DAF Academy

DAF EcoDrive+ training consists of one day of theoretical teaching in the classroom, including video training, as well as time in the cabin and on the open road. Delivered by a certified DAF Academy Trainer. Drivers learn to make best





Drive safer. Save fuel. Start now.

use of the truck and its latest innovations, like predictive cruise control. "What we see is that the training results in fuel consumption reductions of up to 10% on the short term. But also an improvement in driver satisfaction and product knowledge", says Pascal. "Use the voucher! DAF wants 100% of its customers to experience these benefits".

#### **A better driving style**

V.P.M.-TRANS has a fleet of 70 vehicles, mostly from DAF. Drivers train with TRUCK TRADE based in Modřice near Brno, two weeks after vehicle handover. Regular group trainings take place at the company's own premises in Napajedla, with open-road training through the Buchlovské mountains and an occasional detour to Brno for extra instruction.

The result? "Not only are we seeing a drop in fuel consumption, but we're also achieving a lower TCO. Drivers now think about their driving style more, so they brake pro-actively, anticipating better on the situation ahead. This makes them a safer driver and reduces wear and tear on the brakes too", Michal concludes.

Contact us today to find out about this training.





# Be seen in the dark

Get your reflective parts now!



**Summer is coming and the days are getting brighter. But danger still lurks in the shadows, at night and in low light. Now is the perfect time to find out about our exciting new range of reflective accessories for trucks and trailers.**

#### **83 new TRP items to increase visibility**

Our new portfolio features 83 parts specifically designed to enhance safety. They include conspicuity tape, marker boards, indication plates, speed limit markers, ADR hazard signs, aluminium/steel holders, blind spot stickers and more. All parts are tested in the DAF laboratory, meeting the highest international safety standards in accordance with ECE and ADR classifications.

#### **Safety for all**

Boost safety on and off the road with TRP reflective accessories. They're specially designed to:

- improve visibility
- safeguard drivers and other road users
- clearly identify the type of cargo
- ensure compliance with regulations.





## Coming soon

# NEXT

A brand-new program for all customers, for all truck brands, no matter the age.

#### **Benefits of NEXT:**

-  NEXT Points for merchandise and discounts on parts
-  Personal offers on parts
-  Essential industry insights
-  Free DAF Vehicle Upgrades

The NEXT Customer Program. It helps you to stay ahead in your business. Keep a close eye on our channels for the launch.



# Be seen in the dark

Summer is coming and the days are getting brighter. But danger still lurks in the shadows, in tunnels, at night and in low light. Now is the perfect time to find out about our exciting new range of reflective accessories for trucks and trailers.

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## Safety for all

Boost safety on and off the road with TRP reflective accessories, protecting your vehicles and your drivers, as well as safeguarding yard staff and other road users.

Our extensive range of reflective parts and accessories is specially designed to:

- **Comply with and exceed regulations.** Many countries require reflective applications at specified points on vehicles and trailers. Operators need to at least meet the most challenging rules of the countries their vehicles visit, but can and should go further.

- **Improve visibility and awareness.** Reflectors show up the presence, shape and size of the vehicle, and help others estimate its speed and direction, especially when the truck's lighting may be obscured, or could be confused with other light sources.
- **Highlight hazards.** Reflectors can draw attention to lowered tailgates, open doors and other risks to staff.
- **Identify important information at a glance.** Use reflective materials to display hazardous load data, safety warnings and emergency contact information. Self-adhesive signage is easily replaced if damaged, or if the nature of the cargo changes.
- **Demonstrate your company's commitment to safety.** Adding the right reflectors will help develop your reputation as a business with a strong safety culture, towards employees, customers and the wider public.



Get your reflective parts now!





Keep your trucks on the road with ACR



**NOTHING  
BEATS  
ORIGINAL**  
— DAF GENUINE PARTS —

# ACR brakes for longer life and safer driving!

**More efficient and eco-friendly braking is a direct result of training drivers and using the DAF Active Caliper Release (ACR) braking system. This creates longer life for brake components and can increase fuel efficiency by up to 0.3% — benefits customers like Lithuania-based Baltic Transline are keen to see.**

Baltic Transline's Team Leader of Service Group, Gytis Zaikauskas, explains that the company always trains and tests its new drivers before their first road trip. "We only hire professional drivers but even they can benefit from the from the driver training as they learn not to use the brakes too heavily. That reduces how often we need to change the pads and callipers", he says.

## Playing safe, with DAF Genuine Parts

Baltic Transline is a commercial haulier and freight forwarder, moving regular and refrigerated goods, and oversized/exceptional loads. They operate across the Baltic states and elsewhere in Europe, especially Germany, Belgium, Italy and France.

The company has a fleet of some 1,500 trucks, 85% of which are DAF, and is beginning to take delivery of New Generation vehicles factory-fitted with DAF's ACR braking system. Baltic Transline always orders DAF Genuine Brake Pad sets, says Gytis. "We prefer to have the guaranteed quality of genuine parts rather than take a risk on generic aftermarket parts, and the availability and price of spares is always good. That makes it a safe choice!"

## Designed for safety and efficiency

Three key features of DAF's ACR are pre-tensioned springing that returns the brake pads to their original position, a patented brake pad shape and a unique friction material for higher temperature stability and improved heat transfer. These features lower friction and increase efficiency all together.

"DAF's new technologies, such as ACR, really help us remain adaptable and flexible in rapidly changing markets", Gytis remarks.





# See and be seen



Find out all about our lights

**'See and be seen' is the mantra of road safety. And it applies equally when vehicles are manoeuvring off road. Responsible truck operators go beyond the statutory requirements for vehicle lighting by selecting from the DAF range of supplementary lighting products.**

## Light Bars

For better visibility when working in poorly lit yards and other off-road sites, mount lights on the cab roof using a robust (fully cabled) DAF stainless steel Light Bar. It can hold up to six 76-mm diameter lights, which can be a combination of spotlights and beacons.

## Beacons

Flashing orange lights strategically placed on tractors and trailers warn other road users of safety hazards such as 'Convoi Exceptionnel' loads, unusually slow-moving vehicles, or Highway Maintenance equipment that may be stationary on a live road.

## Work Lamps

Drivers are at particular risk when working around a truck in the dark, for example when unloading or connecting trailers. Appropriately positioned work lamps not only show someone is there but also make it easier to see what they are doing, which helps prevent accidents.

Keep your vehicles, operators and other road users safe by investing in additional lighting products from DAF. See and be seen!

Light bar



Work lamp



Beacon





# Safety at DAF: I Make the Difference

**For Rudolf de Bruijn, Director of Health & Safety at PACCAR Parts and DAF Trucks, safety isn't about charts and statistics — it's about protecting people at every stage of truck production and beyond. As a medical doctor with a passion for preventing accidents, he wants workers to be safe at the company, at the dealers and at customers' workshops too.**

"We're building safety into every aspect of our business", says Rudolf, "If you're promoting safety as a key feature of your trucks, it's important to make that come alive throughout your own organisation".

## **Core business priority**

With 24 years at the company, 15 of them in his current role, Rudolf has seen how safety has evolved, becoming a core

business priority. It takes innovative communication to keep it top of mind. "We don't lay down the law", says Rudolf. "Instead, we help people to understand why safe working matters".

Training is key. Plant managers from across the globe attend a week's training at the PACCAR Safety College. Senior managers do plant safety rounds. And over the last couple of years, all 6,000 production employees took part in a full-day safety workshop. The number and seriousness of injuries is dropping. In the past 15 years, DAF has managed to bring down the number of accidents by more than five times through a broad approach.





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*“Safety isn’t just about charts and statistics – it’s about protecting people at every stage of truck production and beyond.”*

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**Rudolf de Bruijn**  
Director Health & Safety

#### **A record safety performance!**

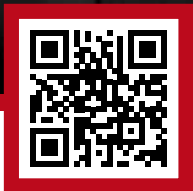
A ‘High Five for Hand Safety’ campaign has led to a nearly 20% reduction in hand and finger injuries in one year between 2023 and 2024 at Eindhoven and Westerlo. With those injuries accounting for 48% of the total, that’s a major win.

#### **You can make a difference in safety too**

The DAF approach could work for your technicians too::

- Safe behaviour: Just like DAF, you can encourage employees to develop safe working practices, including helping each other to reduce hazards and stop work when it’s unsafe.
- Ergonomic design: DAF is exploring ways to cut the need for mechanics to work underneath vehicles, making servicing safer and faster.
- Safer tools, safer trucks: DAF is replacing air-powered impact tools with DC electric tools, reducing noise, cutting harmful vibrations, and ensuring bolts are tightened with precision.
- Hand safety: Think of the right glove for the job, standard work practices and the right tool for the task.

“Don’t underestimate the effort involved in keeping people focused on safety”, adds Rudolf, “Continuous and innovative communication is important.”



Read more about  
the power of safety



# Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road

DAF's innovative HMI design sets the trend in safety

**Safety is literally designed into DAF's award-winning New Generation trucks. And at the heart of DAF's safety focus is a market-leading philosophy called 'Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road'. This revolutionary approach to Human Machine Interface (HMI) design is based on extensive field studies, leading to a unique understanding of how drivers operate their vehicles.**

Raoul Wijnands, Manager Testing at DAF, is passionate about the DAF design ethos. According to Raoul, the crucial aspect in ensuring safe driving practices is to keep the driver's mind focused on what is happening out there on the road, without distractions within the cab. "The central idea is that drivers should be able to operate the truck without taking their hands off the wheel or their eyes off the road", he says. "No other manufacturer applies this philosophy so rigorously".

## **Safer, more intuitive driving**

An example of the philosophy in practice: primary driving functions (as well as the most important navigation, phone and entertainment functions) are operated directly from the steering wheel or column stalks, with controls logically positioned at the driver's fingertips. Secondary driving functions are operated from physical switches on an ergonomically laid out dashboard, so drivers can find them without looking. Experience shows switches are much safer (and more intuitive) than scrolling through options in on-screen menus! In this way, drivers are naturally inclined to keep their 'Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road'.

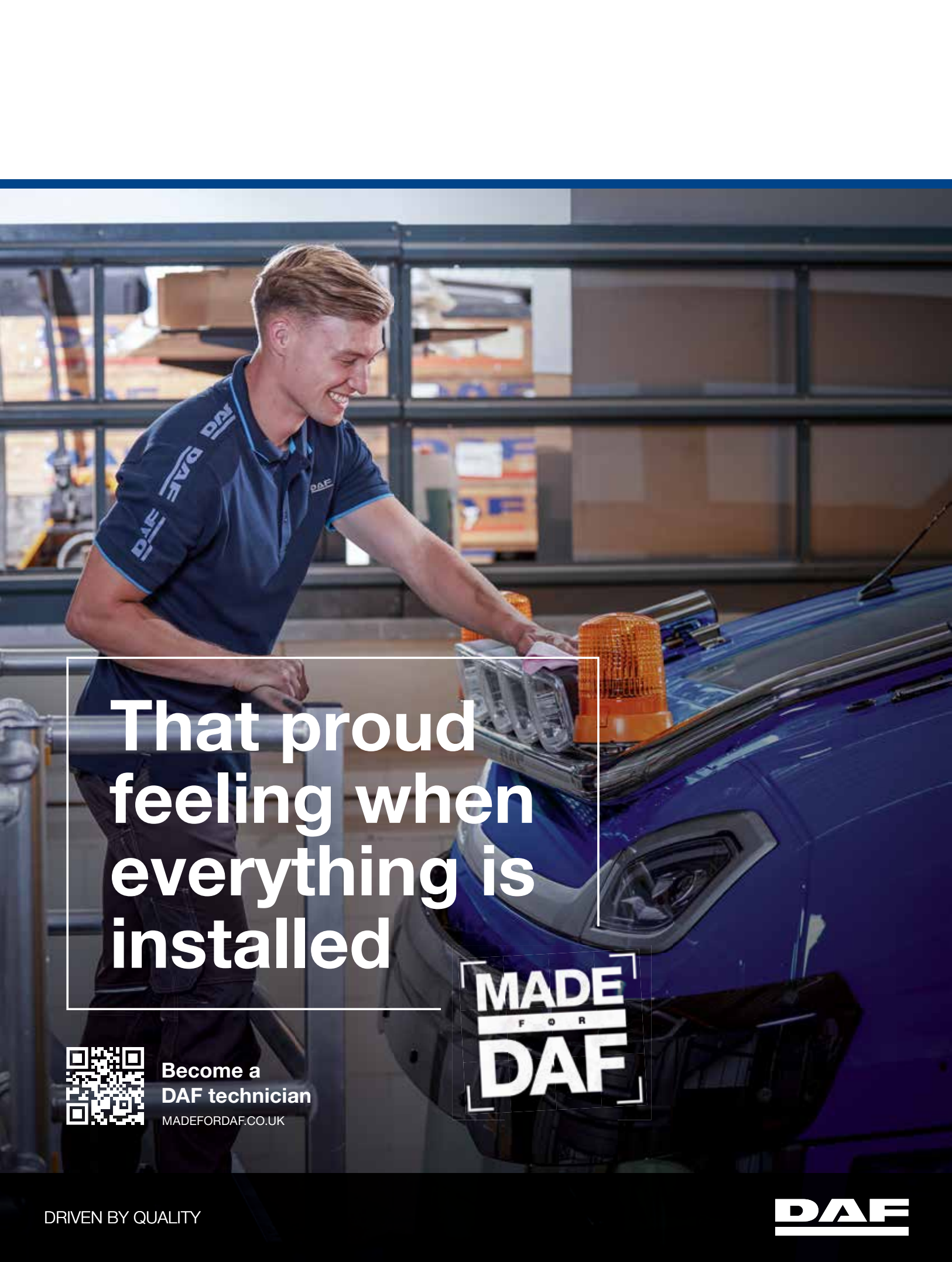
"Truck drivers have basically three scenarios: driving on the open road, manoeuvring, and standing still", explains Raoul. "When they're driving, it's always Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road". So, functions like the radio or the phone are controlled from the steering wheel (on the side nearest to the actual devices) as opposed to via a touchscreen. Similarly, a limited number of driving-related settings are operated from the steering wheel. "It's only when the truck is stationary that you can use the main display menu to change other settings".

## **Multiple systems, one philosophy**

With so many EU-mandated Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) being added these days, drivers can get confused by all the different audible warnings. "So we also look at 'sound design' to see if by cutting out unnecessary or repetitive noises, we can reduce distraction and increase safety", Raoul states.

The 'Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road' philosophy is also evident in new features on this year's models. For example, in line with updated EU regulations, all new DAF trucks are now fitted with a Reversing Camera, a new set of front radars, and a camera combined with two side radars as standard. The new DAF Truck Navigation Hub ensures the driver can only set up a route while the truck is at a standstill. And the most important navigation, phone and entertainment functions from the IVI can be controlled by switches on the steering wheel.

"It's a continuous process of improvement", concludes Raoul. "We design our DAF trucks around the drivers, minimising distractions, making driving more intuitive and helping them to stay focused on the road".



# That proud feeling when everything is installed



Become a  
DAF technician  
[MADEFORDAF.CO.UK](https://MADEFORDAF.CO.UK)

**MADE  
FOR  
DAF**