# MAHLERS NEWS #2 2018





with friction meters

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were swaying" - Pages 5-7 -

### After the sun comes...

No, it's not rain, it's snow I'm thinking of.

We have now had two records in a row – first a record winter where many of us have witnessed volumes of snow that bring to mind winters past, followed by a record summer with sunshine & heat that few of us have been experienced before.

With this in mind, we at Mählers have been making preparations for another snowy winter by producing ploughs like never before. As a result, our warehouses are ready to meet your needs.

However, it is not just the number of items we have been focusing on: we have also been working incredibly hard on our product development, with the result that we can now proudly present two new products for the coming season. Our new SPH high-throw side plough was tested with excellent results last winter, and on pages 5-7 you can find out what one of the test drivers thought about the plough. Another exciting product is our TWO friction measuring equipment, which has rapidly become a much sought-after product in our extensive range. Read more about TWO in the article alongside.



Welcome to yet another interesting issue of Mählers News, which provides the latest updates about what is going on at Mählers and along our roads.

Roar Wehn Head of Sales at Mählers



# Mählers extermite with friction me

Mählers is continuing to extend its product range, and is now offering Traction Watcher One (TWO) friction measuring equipment, a device that can be connected to any vehicle and that comprises wheels that are folded down onto the road surface to measure the current friction.









# ending its range

# ters

We recently announced that we have entered into an agreement to sell Rasco deicing equipment, which includes a number of salt and sand spreader variants, as well as washing and sweeping equipment for roads. We are now releasing our next new product. With the introduction of Traction Watcher One (TWO) friction measuring equipment, we are further expanding our product range.

"Bringing this product into our range felt like a natural step. As a result, we are now more or less

a complete supplier, meeting most of the equipment needs of our road operators," says Vidar Jansen, Mählers Norway.

The product is already well known in the sector, and there is considerable interest from several road districts.

"We have already sold 135 TWO systems, which is clear confirmation of the level of interest that exists. TWO is designed to perform measurements both on roads and in airports. For road use, TWO is installed so that the measuring wheels are lined up with the vehicle's left-hand wheels. For airports, the wheels are in the centre. The TWO meter can also be installed on a trailer," says Vidar Jansen.

The friction meter is extremely easy to use, measuring friction at speeds ranging from 2-110 km/h. As a result, the product can also be used for footpaths and cycle paths.

"In transport mode, two wheels are lifted off the ground. The unit is lowered automatically to the measuring position when measurement is initiated. The entire process - lifting and lowering, including ground control - is managed by a piece of software. The operator simply has to press the START or

> STOP button," says Vidar Jansen.

Contact Mählers for more information about TWO friction meters



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VIDAR JANSEN, MÄHLERS NORWAY

## **SPH -** HIGH-THROW SIDE PLOUGH



The SPH High-throw side plough is the latest product in Mählers' high-throw H-series. The rear section is optimally designed for throwing snow high and far from the roadside without creating tall windrows. Can easily be converted to 10, 12, 14 and 16 feet in length, by replacing the front section of the plough. This is a very handy feature when the plough is to be used on trucks with different dimensions.

The side plough must rest on a

height-adjustable supporting plate-type skid or stabiliser wheel while in operation. The front of the plough is fitted with a moveable mounting bracket for attachment to a front support hinge on the truck. A steel cable serves as an extra security device.

The SPH was rigorously tested during the winter of 2017-2018. On the following pages you can read the opinions of one of the test drivers.

SPH

- + Throws the snow high and far, even at low speeds
- + Unique design produces straight windrows and prevents the snow from "running back" onto the road
- + One and the same basic module that cab easily be built on to create four different lengths
- + Safety wire as additional security
- + Can be obtained with wheels or slide shoes

### STANDARD

- Wheel set: With subsequent reduced noise and steel wear
- Position light/3-pole electrical plug
- Mounting device

#### NOTE!

In order to fit the truck, it is necessary to mount the forward side plough hitch, hydraulic extension type US-84 and parallelogram.



# "The telephone lines were swaying"

The winter of 2017-2018 was one of the snowiest for many years in northern Scandinavia, and it also provided the perfect conditions for testing Mählers' new high-throw side plough. On a cold February day, reps from Mählers News met one of the test pilots, Pelle Eriksson, a driver at Engqvist Åkeri in Tåsjö, in the county of Jämtland.



"

Some people are convinced we have used a snow blower when they see the ploughed edges, but it's actually the design of the new plough does this

PELLE ERIKSSON, ENGQVIST ÅKERI



Pelle drives the haulage company's Volvo FH480 6x4, which can be used on both lowland & upland terrain. The ploughing route starts in Rotnäset before gradually rising in altitude, finally joining Route 815, which is the final stretch of the 210 kilometre long return ploughing trip. The turning point up at Härbergsdalen mountain farm is at an altitude of around 500 metres, while the peaks on Silkentjakke that line the road reach up to around 1200 metres. This is mountainous terrain, in other words, and the Volvo has therefore been equipped with a Mählers V-plough dating from the 1980s.

"There are actually two reasons why we drive with the V-plough. One is that it is easier for us to get through the hard snow drifts that regularly form up here in the mountains, while the other is that we cannot get past the bridge in Svansele with any other type of plough. "In fact, we have even had to make cuts in the plough and adapt its shape in order to navigate the bridge railings," says Pelle, showing us the modification.

#### As though a snow blower has gone past

At the time of our visit, there is only light clearing required, as a little snow had blown in at the roadside during the night. On some stretches, Pelle is able to raise the V-plough and only use the side plough.

Pelle maintains a relatively low speed on the winding road, yet Mählers' new side plough is still able to throw the snow up over the high ploughed edges with ease. "You can see for yourself how well the wing throws the snow," says Pelle contentedly when we stop at the turning point up in Blomhöjden.

"I was actually startled the first time I tested the wing," continues Pelle, going on to explain that the snow the side plough was throwing up was causing the telephone lines to sway.

A further advantage of Mählers' SPH side plough, and one that we get to witness, is that the ploughed edges are very straight, in fact vertical.

"Some people are convinced we have used a snow blower when they see the ploughed edges, but it's actually the design of the new plough does this," says Pelle, pointing to the design of the plough.

After we have finished talking and taking photos, it's time for Pelle to clear the return on Blomhöjdsvägen, after which he has to complete Härbergsdalen before he can turn homewards and plough the remaining 105 kilometres.







After just a couple of years working as a carpenter, Torbjörn "Tobbe" Rutström from Boden grew tired of the profession. After more than 20 years driving a snowplough, he is still brimming with enthusiasm as he talks about plough width, the plough's cutting angle, the underbody scraper and the advantages of Mählers' DPH high-throw diagonal plough. "It's still fun to plough, but you have to have good equipment. I got my first plough from Mählers 18 years ago, and I've stuck with them ever since.



"Tobbe" is happy to talk about professional pride, but prefers to dodge that actual term, which he feels sounds a little pretentious. For him, however, it is important to do a good job, ideally to go a little beyond expectations. The ploughing route he has driven for the past two seasons, on behalf of BDX, covers 80 kilometres of County Road 356 between Boden and Älvsbyn.

"I've only been forced to drive with the road grader on one occasion, right at the end of the season. You shouldn't need it if you plough carefully," says "Tobbe".

By this he means adjusting your speed – "I rarely drive faster than 45 km/hour" – making sure you have good-quality steel, not leaving tracks behind you, being careful with the underbody scraper and maintaining a good road width.

"But you want to have good equipment too. I do: a Scania R580 with Mählers' DPH 3700, a 14 foot side wing, an underbody scraper and the MC2 control system. It all works perfectly!"

#### Tired of plasterboard

As a newly trained carpenter, "Tobbe" did not stay in the job for long. He grew tired of "screwing plasterboard" all day long.

So at his own initiative he obtained a truck licence and bought an old Scania 141 that had previously been used to transport timber. As he was living close to the firing range, he was asked if he could carry out ploughing for the Armed Forces, and he hasn't looked back.

A handful of Scania trucks later, "Tobbe" has gained a reputation as a capable and demanding snowplough driver. Only the best is good enough, and that's why he misses Per Johansson at Fordonsteknik in Älvsbyn. Per has helped "Tobbe" right from the outset with all the superstructure for the ploughing equipment.

"It's a shame he has stopped, as he has helped me tremendously over the years. He knew everything there is to know about Mählers' equipment was able to solve any problem. Mählers themselves have also always been helpful and adopted a service-minded approach.

"I like testing new things, but there has actually never been any reason to try anything other than Mählers."

#### Was not thinking about changing

In terms of ploughs, he has used everything from old V-ploughs to the very latest, modern versions. He has test-driven Flexiway when it was due to be introduced. And for many years he was convinced that the Rossö plough was simply unbeatable. But that was before the DPH.

"I wasn't actually going to have a DPH, as I was happy with the Rossö plough. But then I saw a DPH that Per was about to service. And I wanted one..."

That was two years ago, and "Tobbe" is now convinced that the DPH is by far the best choice.

"It throws the snow well and doesn't hop around. It's stable, very similar to a V-plough: the more snow there is, the better it ploughs. It is very good on paved roads, but I reckon it's even better on gravel roads."

Even the old tractor, which he uses to plough narrow roads in town, has Mählers written all over it.

"I drive with a regular multi-plough, but the old red snow clearing bucket from Mählers stands out and still works very well," he laughs.





### Increase your capacity 365 days a year

Make greater use of your truck. Clear snow and maintain gravel roads with equipment from Mählers. Our tools are built to last season after season and raise your capacity summer and winter alike. Flexible hitches facilitate mounting and plough changes. The System Mählers parallelogram allows ploughs for wheel loaders to be used with trucks. The product range includes grader blades for trucks and side ploughs, snow guards, trenching blades and gravel spreaders for road graders.

Want to know more or do you need support? Do not hesitate to get in touch with us!

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