PAVING OPERATIONS

10 Tips
How to Purchase and Set-up a Tri-axle Dump Truck for Paving

a Truck with a Purpose

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**FRAME**

**Afterframe Dimension of 67" +/-**

67" from the center of the tandem to the body hinge pin (see photo above) allows the frame to extend into the paver. If the afterframe dimension is correct, there should be 46" from the center of the rear axle to the end of the body as well as approximately 75" from the center of the tandem axle to the end of the frame.

**Body Hinge Pins**

Use the largest diameter body hinge pins available. Body hinge pins should be positioned as far back on the frame as possible. This allows for easier dumping into the paver.

**BODY AND TAILGATE**

**Aluminum Body**

The lightweight body allows carrying of a few extra tons. The body is positioned very close to the cab for optimal weight distribution. If the truck will see heavy rock and paving, consider using a steel body in place of aluminum with similar dimensions.

**Heavy Duty Plastic Body Liner**

Allows for faster release of the load and protects the truck body. A liner is cheaper to replace than an aluminum body.

**Long, 40-Ton Cylinder**

A long, 40-ton cylinder allows the body to reach a 48-52 degree dump angle.

**Sloped Body**

A lower backend helps prevent overloading to the back of the truck.

**Sloped Tailgate**

A sloped tailgate allows the gate to get up higher, out of the way when dumping. There should be approximately 18.5" horizontal distance between the top body pin and the lower back of the tailgate.

**NO Spill Board**

Do not put a spill board on the tailgate. It is easier to clean remaining asphalt off the tailgate without a spill board.

**NO Air Ride Suspension**

Elevation changes in the truck body can cause problems dumping.

**TRANSMISSION**

**11-Speed Transmission**

Buy an 11-speed transmission. It allows for a crawl speed that is handy when dumping into a paver or material transfer vehicle.

When these recommendations are followed, you should have the optimal vertical distance from the floor of the paver to the tailgate of 19.5".