

REAL

April 2024

Torque

Water Carts

Contact maintenance for any questions on 0800 80 80 69



What is a water cart?

Water tankers, commonly referred to as water carts, serve various purposes across different industries. These carts are commonly used in areas where access to clean water is limited or where water needs to be transported. Roding contractors commonly use TR Group's water carts for dust suppression and cooling down hot mix.



At TR we currently have over 25 water carts in our fleet. Some can carry as little as 2,000L and our bigger ones can carry as much as 14,000L. They also come in different configurations as well, from 4x2, right up to 8x4. Not all water carts are the same, it is important to make sure when doing a handover to a customer that they are well trained on its operation as each one can be different.



How's this for size! Some water carts used in mines overseas can hold as much as 120,000L of water!



Spray nozzles – Many water carts feature spray nozzles mounted on the rear, sides, or front of the vehicle. These nozzles can be adjusted to control the flow and direction of water, allowing for precise distribution.

Various tank sizes – Commonly 5,000L, 10,000L, or 14,000L. Often tanks have baffles inside the tank to minimise the sloshing in the tank.

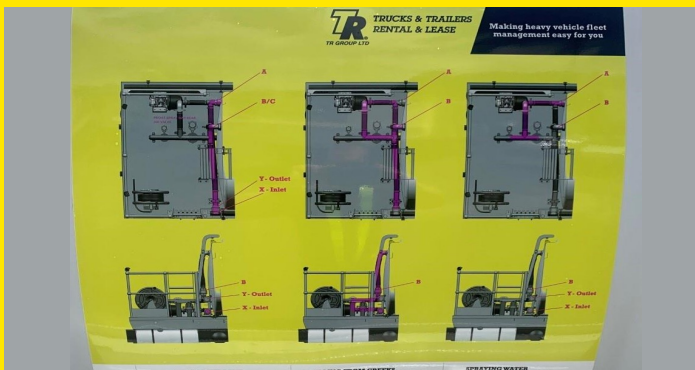


Electro-Pneumatic Valves – To control water flow from inside the cab.



Auxiliary motors & Pump - Some can have a key start in the cab. The pump can be driven by an auxiliary motor or hydraulically via a PTO.

Flexible hose reels - Some water carts are equipped with hose reels, which allow for more flexible distribution of water to areas that are difficult to reach with the vehicle itself.



Some water carts have valve diagrams to assist with operation. It is important to make sure when hiring these that the operators understand how to operate the water cart.



Example of spraying from the rear spray bar.

The most common use of a water cart is to suppress dust on construction sites, or during road maintenance. They are well suited to this task as they can cover a large area quickly using the rear spray bar with water, which is also an environmentally friendly dust suppressant.



DUST HAZARD

It is important to keep dust under control as dust can be a health hazard. This is one of the reasons councils require construction sites to keep dust under control.



TR Tips

Tips and Tricks

- ▶ Before handing over to a customer, ensure they have been shown the correct way to operate the water cart, and have access to all the instructions.
- ▶ Use the correct fuel. Petrol/Diesel for auxiliary engines.
- ▶ When self-loading by sucking water from a stream, use a suction filter to avoid debris entering the pump and tank.
- ▶ Failure to have the right valves open for the right task can result in pump failure.
- ▶ Carting drinking water requires the operator to be approved by a DWA (drinking water assessor) and the vehicle being cleaned to a food grade standard.
- ▶ If the water cart is fitted with a petrol auxiliary engine, ensure the fuel tap is "off" when not in use as this prevents the fuel from overflowing the carburettor and leaking.

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