

Press Information

Release Immediate
10th July 2025

No. 2800

DAVID BLOCKLEY AND SON ADD NEW FLAGSHIP VOLVO FH16 AERO 780

Yorkshire's David Blockley and Son has taken delivery of a new stand-out Volvo FH16 Aero 780 6x2 Globetrotter XL tractor unit, replacing a Volvo FH 540 working on contract with livestock haulier Fred Greenwood and Son.

Supplied by Jason Robinson, Area Sales Manager, Crossroads Truck and Bus, the vehicle will be predominately paired with a Plowman livestock trailer. Operating from Esholt, just north of Bradford, it will transport cattle to farms across the UK.

David Blockley, Owner, says: "I cut my teeth as an apprentice mechanic at Crossroads in 1973, so I like to think I know a thing or two about what makes Volvo such a strong brand! I've had many 16-litre FH16s over the years, and when the 780 was announced it was only a matter of time before one made its way to us.

"We've only had the FH16 Aero on the road a few weeks, but we've seen good MPG figures which are already better than those of the standard FH this truck replaced. We're especially happy with that performance given how aerodynamically inefficient livestock trailers are by their nature and the fact that they're never truly empty. We couldn't be happier."

David Blockley and Son's new flagship FH16 features a D17 engine – the most powerful to ever be put into a Volvo truck – capable of delivering up 3,800 Nm of torque and more engine braking power at low speed, driven through an automated 12-speed I-Shift transmission.

The engine's architecture includes a single efficient turbocharger that boosts responsiveness and improves the driving experience. An innovative Volvo patented wave piston design further optimises combustion and reduces emissions, while a new injection system and increased peak cylinder pressure enable improved fuel economy and high-power output respectively.

A spacious Globetrotter XL cab has been adorned with David Blockley and Son's and Fred Greenwood and Son's matching classic red and cream livery as well as Dura Bright alloys, creating a striking exterior aesthetic.

Inside, a Drive+ package brings fully electronic air conditioning with carbon filter and sun, mist and air quality sensors, dual armrests, an electrically operated fabric interior sun roller blind and leather upholstery to the spec. Combined with a heated and suspended driver's seat and front air suspension, this creates a comfortable working environment.

As part of a one person Living package, David Blockley has also opted for additional cab storage, two bottle holders, a practical foldaway table, and 33-litre fridge/freezer, alongside a microwave oven.

“The feedback so far has been really positive,” adds Blockley. “The Fred Greenwood and Son team are happy with how the truck performs, and especially with the cab itself. When someone’s spending long hours on the road, comfort, quietness, and ease of use become essential. This FH16 Aero ticks all the boxes in terms of interior layout and overall driver experience.”

Working five days a week, the truck is expected to clock up to 100,000 km, remaining on the fleet for at least three years.

Established in 1980, David Blockley and Son provides vehicle maintenance and recovery services from Drighlington in West Yorkshire. The new truck marks the continuation of a long-standing 50-year relationship between the customer, Fred Greenwood and Son, and Crossroads Truck and Bus.

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Caption for photograph:

David Blockley and Son has taken delivery of a Volvo FH16 Aero 780 6x2 Globetrotter XL rear steer tractor unit.

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