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2201 Hancel Parkway – Mooresville, IN, USA – 46158 P: 800.861.2142 – F: 317.834.4501 – www.etsprayers.com

CONTACT: Steve Leer

317.210.7313 - Steve.leer@etsprayers.com

Giddy up! Higher horsepower heads Apache sprayer improvements in 2016

MOORESVILLE, Indiana, July 1, 2015 – Press the ignition button on a 2016 Apache self-propelled sprayer and don't be surprised if it feels like an experience at a thoroughbred horse farm.

All four Apache models boast greater horsepower in the new model year, while consuming less fuel and providing a steadier ride than previous models. Other improvements include a sturdier and easier to maintain boom rack, a redesigned and repositioned product tank sight gauge, and a cab that's even quieter than before. Apaches continue to be lighter and more affordable than competing sprayers, extremely reliable and backed by an industry-leading five-year limited warranty.

"Our 2016 models raise the bar for quality and value," said Matt Hays, Chief Executive Officer of Equipment Technologies, the Apache manufacturer. "We believe growers will like what we've done and will enjoy greater cost savings and profitability with these new machines."

The upgrades begin under the hood, where the new 30 series Apaches receive more get-up-and-go. The Tier 4 Final Cummins diesel engines generate higher horsepower while stretching fuel further than their 20 series predecessors. Here is a model comparison:

- AS730 (750-gallon tank), 173 horsepower vs. 2015 AS720, 160 horsepower
- AS1030 (1,000-gallon tank), 225 horsepower vs. 2015
 AS1025, 173 horsepower
- AS1230 (1,200-gallon tank), 260 horsepower vs. 2015 AS1220, 215 horsepower
- AS1230 XP (Xtra Power, 1,200-gallon tank), 300 horsepower vs. 2015 AS1220 Plus II, 275 horsepower

The 30 series models are 5-20 percent more fuel efficient than previous Apaches, which already were energy misers.



2016 Apache AS730

In back, 2016 Apaches are equipped with straddle mount rear axles. The new axles promote smooth gear shifting and contribute to a more stable ride.

Booms receive a number of improvements. A stronger boom rack common to all Apache models better cushions boom arms, reducing wear and tear. Greaseless bushings eliminate 27 of 32 boom rack and wing grease points, cutting maintenance time and cost. Apache customers can choose from standard steel booms 80-100 feet in length, or optional 120- and 132-foot aluminum PommierTM booms.

Keeping track of how much chemical is still in the product tank is a snap, thanks to an easier-to-read sight gauge. The gauge is relocated to allow greater visibility from inside the cab.

Speaking of the cab, less noise will be heard inside. New models have been re-engineered to be as much as 6 percent quieter than older models, again making Apache the low-noise champion. The ergonomically friendly seat and control console provides ultimate comfort to operators, along with such features as a joystick with Braille-type dimples and bumps for control by feel, rearview camera, "Plug and Play" ISOBUS technology, two cruise control settings, a USB jack, a Bluetooth®-ready Polk™ audio system with four Jensen™ HP speakers and 360° visibility. An optional vented and heated leather seat also is available.

Apaches are the only sprayers with optional factory-installed Raven™ and Trimble™ precision application systems.

A simple but powerful torque-converted mechanical drive transmission allows Apaches to handle even the toughest and steepest terrain. Patented Power-to-the-GroundTM technology transfers 90 percent of an Apache's horsepower to the ground, making it more efficient than competing hydrostatic sprayers. And weighing 3,000-14,000 pounds lighter than other sprayers, Apaches create less soil compaction.

Apaches are priced tens of thousands of dollars less than John DeereTM and Case IHTM sprayers of comparable size and options. What's more, new Apaches come with an industry-leading five-year warranty that is unrivaled.

"We believe so strongly in our sprayers we're willing to back them with a warranty that is second to none," Hays said. "We challenge growers to find a sprayer that beats Apache in price, cost of operation, ease of use, durability and return on investment."

Learn more about 2016 model Apaches by visiting the Equipment Technologies website, www.etsprayers.com.

Founded in 1997, Equipment Technologies assembles Apaches at its Mooresville, Ind., plant. The privately owned company markets its sprayers through a vast dealership network in the United States, Canada, Australia and Ukraine.

NOTE TO MEDIA: A publication-quality version of the Apache AS730 photo accompanying this news release is available at http://www.etsprayers.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/2016%20cover.jpg. Other 2016 model photos are available at http://www.etsprayers.com/gallery/. For additional information and interviews, contact Steve Leer at 317-210-7313 or steve.leer@etsprayers.com.