



**Press Release:** February 2011

## **SEMENCO PROVIDES SAFETY SOLUTIONS FOR BRITAIN'S BEST KNOWN HOLIDAY AND AIRLINE PROVIDERS**

Musculoskeletal disorders (MSD's) are one of the most common occupational injuries, with an estimated 538,000 people in Great Britain who had worked in 2008/09 suffering from a musculoskeletal disorder that was caused or made worse by their current or past work<sup>1</sup>. An estimated 11.6 million working days a year are lost to work-related MSDs and the Labour Force Survey shows that an estimated 9.3 million working days (full-day equivalent) were lost in 2008/09 through MSDs caused or made worse by work.<sup>2</sup>

**Situation:** Airline maintenance staff at Thomas Cook and Flybe are frequently involved in the manoeuvre of heavy goods and in particular the transportation of nitrogen and oxygen cylinders. In addition to manoeuvring heavy loads, when the oxygen cylinders that are used to charge the aircraft tyres, suspension and struts run out of gas, the maintenance staff must pass through security to take delivery of new cylinders from the supplier outside the security gates. In order to reduce the amount of manual handling, save time and consequently save money for line maintenance teams, leading UK airlines Thomas Cook and Flybe turned to Semenco to help develop an innovative product that complies with Health and Safety legislation to protect the workforce and enhance their productivity.

**Solution:** Semenco, through its wealth of experience and expertise in the design, supply and maintenance of specialist Ground Support Equipment worldwide, designed the Cylinder Transportation Trolley. Specifically intended for the airport environment these highly sophisticated devices work by mounting the cylinders on the trolley on a cradle, which then rotates from the horizontal to the vertical position to enable a cylinder to be loaded and unloaded. The cylinder is easily strapped securely to the cradle in a vertical position, rotated to a horizontal position and clamped to the trolley; this ensures a double locking system to

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<sup>1</sup> Labour Force Survey <http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/lfs/0809/swit3w12.htm>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/lfs/0809/swit1.htm>

hold the cylinder in place. This innovative design reduces the need of manual handling of cylinders and reduces the frequency of MSDs in the workplace.

*For more information on bespoke ground support equipment from Semmco, please contact +44 (0)1483 757200*

**ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors**

Founded in 1992 and operating across the UK and internationally, Semmco is a design, manufacturing and engineering company offering a range of specialist services for access solutions, ground support equipment, respiratory protection systems for all areas of industry and military and specific applications for the emergency services. Providing engineering design and consultancy for special projects and bespoke customer requirements, Semmco is committed to quality, safety and reliability throughout innovative designs, manufacturing safe and cost effective engineered solutions.

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**This press release and an image are also available on The McOnie Agency website.**

If you need any help or would like a high res image emailed to you, please contact Hannah Vernon [hannah@mconieagency.com](mailto:hannah@mconieagency.com)

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