



the perfect partner

SUPER MULTI BALE HANDLER

USER TESTIMONIAL



Loads of Safety



Scottish cereal and potato grower, Findlay Russell, carries no stock on the 800-acre family farm. To utilise the 500 acres of straw baled from growing spring barley with some winter rape and oil seed rape, 90% of the straw produced is sold and transported, mostly to the cattle areas of the west coast of Scotland, with lorries often returning the same day for a second load.

Loading and moving 3,500 - 4,000 Claas round bales safely throughout the harvest season is an important consideration for Findlay. As an active farm mentor within the Royal Bank of

Scotland Farm Safe Vision, he actively encourages farmers to improve on farm safety.

In previous years, lorry loading was carried out with a loader equipped with a bale spike or a 2-bale grab. The bale spike was a safety concern as with the loader reversing, drawing the spike out of the punctured bale on the trailer, straw friction with the spike often meant that the bale moved back away from the original loaded position causing the bale to be tipped backwards.

The use of an upright 2-bale grab helped overcome these problems, but as the loads are stacked three bales high on the lorry bed a single bale had to be loaded separately on top.

New 3-Bale Grab

A Ritchie three bale inline grab was trialled for the 2013 harvest on the farms telehandler,

resulting in not only a substantial increase in loading speeds, the best being 14.5 minutes to load 72 bales, but more importantly the load was collected safely allaying all of Findlay's concern.

Loading three square or round bales in one handling operation where the bales are all in line and tightly packed without any of the bale netting being damaged, the whole operation is considerably quicker and safer. The new 3-bale grab, from Ritchie, features 2 spiked wings each operated by its own hydraulic ram to tightly grip and secure the bales. Mated to a heavy duty, high capacity front-end loader or telehandler for stability, this new piece of equipment has been specifically designed by Ritchie engineers to provide farmers and contractors improved output and safety.

