



By Trevor Tohill

Not just the Truck!

At TruckSure we get a lot of new client enquiry from our web exposure and industry profile.

The big question when the phone rings or the email appears on the screen is "Do you guys do truck insurance – I want a quote". Of course we love receiving these sorts of requests and our answer is "absolutely, what have you got there?"

I wish it was as simple as that but truck insurance is a bit more complex than this little opening exchange of words.

More importantly, it does not just come down to the cost. Essentially it is the extent and quality of the coverage and the expertise of the broker and insurer.

I was reviewing an insurer's policy document prior to writing this article as I wanted to see if I could explain in simple terms what the 12 pages of blurb actually meant in plain language.

While wading through the copious number of schedules, clauses, explanations, conditions and definitions I was reminded that it is **not just the truck that is being insured** – it is much more than that.

Twenty years ago it might have been that you insured the truck against damage and theft with third party liability thrown in for good measure. Over the ensuing years and with broker pressure the coverage, policy wordings and extensions have meant that truck insurance is now more a package of benefits with some 'extensions' now fully incorporated into the policy wordings.

I thought that there might be more benefit in this article if I confined my review and comments to the extensive 'extras' that are part of the truck insurance package.

I guarantee that you will be surprised at the range of cover now provided by your specialist insurer. Please note that my review and comments refer to a policy provided by a TruckSure recommended transport specialist insurer and may not necessarily reflect your own current coverage. I make no reference to the range of excesses or to the various conditions and exclusions that may apply.

Let us start with the truck (and trailer if applicable).

Accidental loss - Damage, fire, and theft to or of the insured vehicle. This is the main event and the principal component of the premium.

Additions and Deletions - Vehicles purchased or sold during the period of insurance are automatically covered or deleted up to a value of \$150,000 to \$250,000 (depending on the insurer's limits).

Breach of Policy Conditions - The insurance will not be invalidated by any breach of conditions where the breach is without the knowledge of the insured.

Claim Preparation Costs - Limit \$5000 - to cover the costs of preparing a claim.

Completion of Journey Costs - Limit \$5000 - towards completing your journey following an accident or returning your vehicle to base following repair or theft.

Death by Accident - A sum of \$5000 is payable to the insured's estate if the insured dies as a result of an accident covered by the policy.

Disability Modifications - Limit \$5,000 - to modify your vehicle or private car should you become permanently disabled

following an accident covered by the policy. ACC proviso applies.

Funeral Expenses - Limit \$5000 - towards the cost of a funeral if the insured dies as a result of an accident covered by the policy. ACC proviso applies.

Goods in Transit - Limit \$5000 - cover for the insured's property carried on or in the insured vehicle, damaged as a result of an accident covered by the policy.

Hazardous Substance Emergency - Limit \$5000 - towards the authorised charges made by the NZ Fire Service in respect to any hazardous substance emergency.

Hoists - Limit \$5000 - for mechanical failure or breakdown of permanently attached hoists excluding wear and tear.

Invalidation - Cover is provided where the insured vehicle is being driven when the insured has no knowledge that General Exclusions within the policy may have been breached by an employee driver.

Load Recovery - Limit \$5000 - for salvage of any load spilled out onto any road, carriageway, or parking lot.

Repairs Authorisation - The insured may authorise repairs up to \$1000 without prior notice to the insurer.

Rewards - Following a theft of the insured vehicle and with the prior consent of the insurer a reward of up to \$5,000 may be offered to secure the return of the vehicle.

Salvage and Safety - Following an insured loss, cover is provided for reasonable costs of salvage, recovery, safety and delivery to an authorised repairer or storage yard.

Theft Costs - Limit \$2500 - towards the cost of a hire vehicle following the theft of the insured vehicle.

Uninsured Third Party Protection - If a third party has no valid and collectable insurance the policy covers the insured's no claim bonus, policy excess and uninsured loss.

Windscreens - Windscreens are covered for repair or replacement without application of the policy excess.

Loss of Use Extension - This is not an automatic cover and you need to make sure that your broker has included this in your policy. Covers the hire of a replacement vehicle if yours is damaged and off the road for repairs. Subject to certain limitations and a 7 day excess.

Then there is Section 2 of the policy covering Third Party Liability.

The Insurer will indemnify the insured and any driver in charge of the insured's vehicle against liability for accidental bodily injury or accidental loss to any property and including defence costs.

Limits of Indemnity under this section should be no less than \$10,000,000 and the policy should be noted to include Airside Liability and Dangerous Goods Liability to the same limit.

Weight Damage should be included at \$500,000 minimum.

Generally a policy excess does not apply to Section 2 claims.

Well I hope that this info is of some use and if you do not have coverage to this extent then you should be discussing this with your broker.

Still need an answer? Refer to a TruckSure broker for a chat – www.trucksure.co.nz ☎



MultiSure



0800 287 287

www.trucksure.co.nz



TruckSure

'We've got trucking covered'