



MAC Utes – putting a lid on it!

Load-rated 'hard lids' are fast becoming the preferred tray-covering/securing option for utility owners, with Hamilton-based manufacturer MAC Ute Accessories being one of the key players.

With clean lines, industry-leading, black powder-coated 4mm aluminium chequer plate construction and distinctive MAC Utes-branded, anti-theft handles, the company's Hard Lids are certainly not hard to spot; particularly since they have become so popular and the preferred option for many.

There's a MAC Hard Lid for most current double cab ute models which includes the next generation Ford Ranger. MAC Utes manufactures hard lids for stock, meaning once a new design is released, there is a continual supply of the lids coming through production to keep up with demand. No lead times waiting for the hard lid to be manufactured because they already have all the best features as their standard spec. Supply-side delays are every customer's worst nightmare – the Mac Ute system has this situation beaten.

This among other things sets MAC Utes apart from their competition.

The MAC300 hardlid is the top seller of their current line-up. Super tough, it is the highest load rated lid available in the NZ market, with integrated side rails that have four tie-down points running along each side. This patent-pending feature of the lid makes it a standout in the ute lid market.

Closer inspection of any MAC Utes hard lid also reveals a host of clever details like streamlined smooth lid edges which are hand-sanded pre-powder coat so there is no need for any additional trim to hide the raw edge. The lids have a no-drill fitment, quick release stainless steel sub frame and clamping system, single central locking compatible handle for easy locking/unlocking of the lid. There is a comprehensive range of compatible accessories to suit both commercial and leisure applications. From roof top tents, bicycles to skis, fishing rods or surf and snow boards, if MAC's preferred suppliers Rhino Rack or Yakima make a fitting for it then it can be mounted on a MAC Hard Lid.

MAC also offers an ingenious accessory called the MACGAP bracket, it

is a stainless-steel hinge which enables the lid to be closed as normal but leaving a 100 or 150mm gap at the tailgate. This works for surf boards, fishing rods, big tools or timber.

Luke Underwood is the man behind MAC Ute Accessories, a company the Bay of Plenty-born but now Hamilton man founded on his return from ten plus years of working in the mines in Outback Australia back in 2016. Luke says he couldn't help but notice how popular utes had become in NZ while he was working across the Tasman and – keen to use his skills and trade training as a fitter and welder to go into business on his own account – he saw an opportunity.

"If someone is spending \$70,000+ on a new ute they want the accessories fitted to it to be of similar quality to the vehicle itself," he explains. "As well as doing its job it's has to add value and that is what we have achieved with our Hard Lids."

For more information about MAC products check out the website at www.macutes.co.nz phone 07 849 1996.