



Tow Plows in Ontario

2015 Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange
September 2015

Tow Plows in Ontario

- First developed in the United States in 2005 and have constantly evolved in both design and capabilities through to today
- Multiple options available including;
 - Ballast tanks
 - Direct Liquid Application equipment
 - Spreader bodies
- Multiple configurations and equipment options provide varying plowing widths dependent on highway geometrics.
- Currently more than 150 Tow Plows currently in use in Ontario

Optional Equipment

- Equipped with Spreader Body
- Equipped with a Ballast Tank/ DLA Equipment



New Ontario Lighting Package



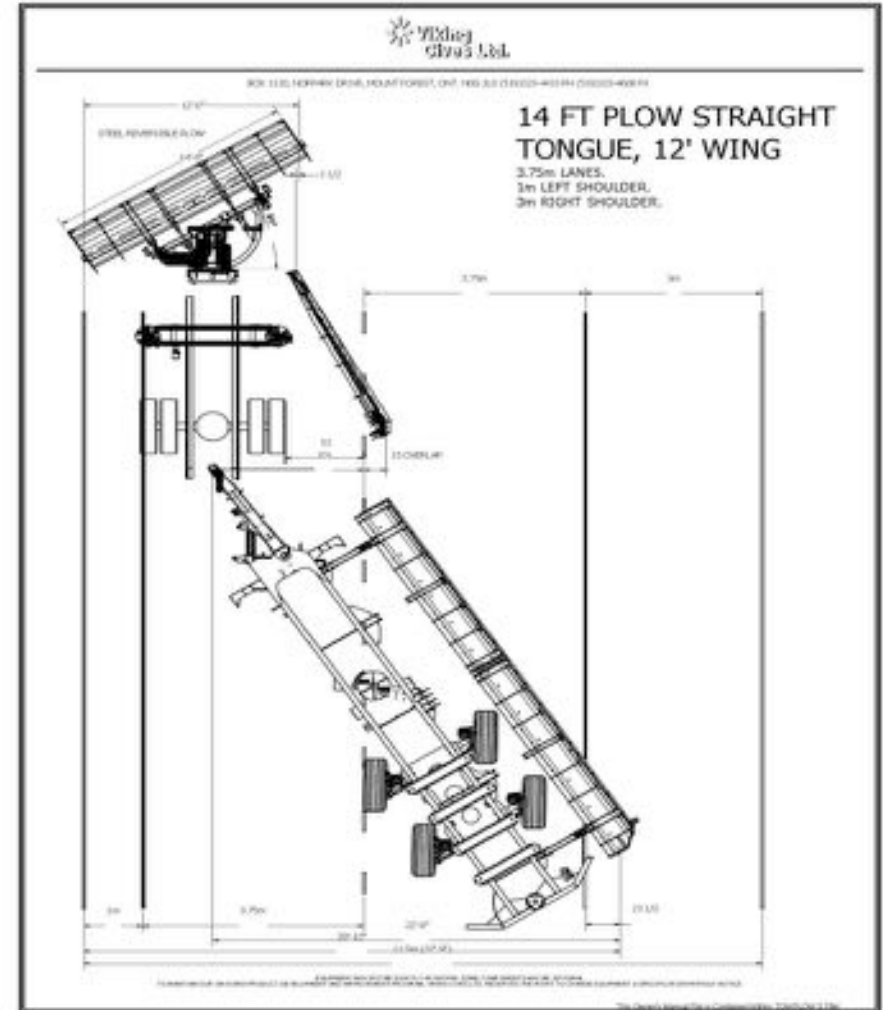
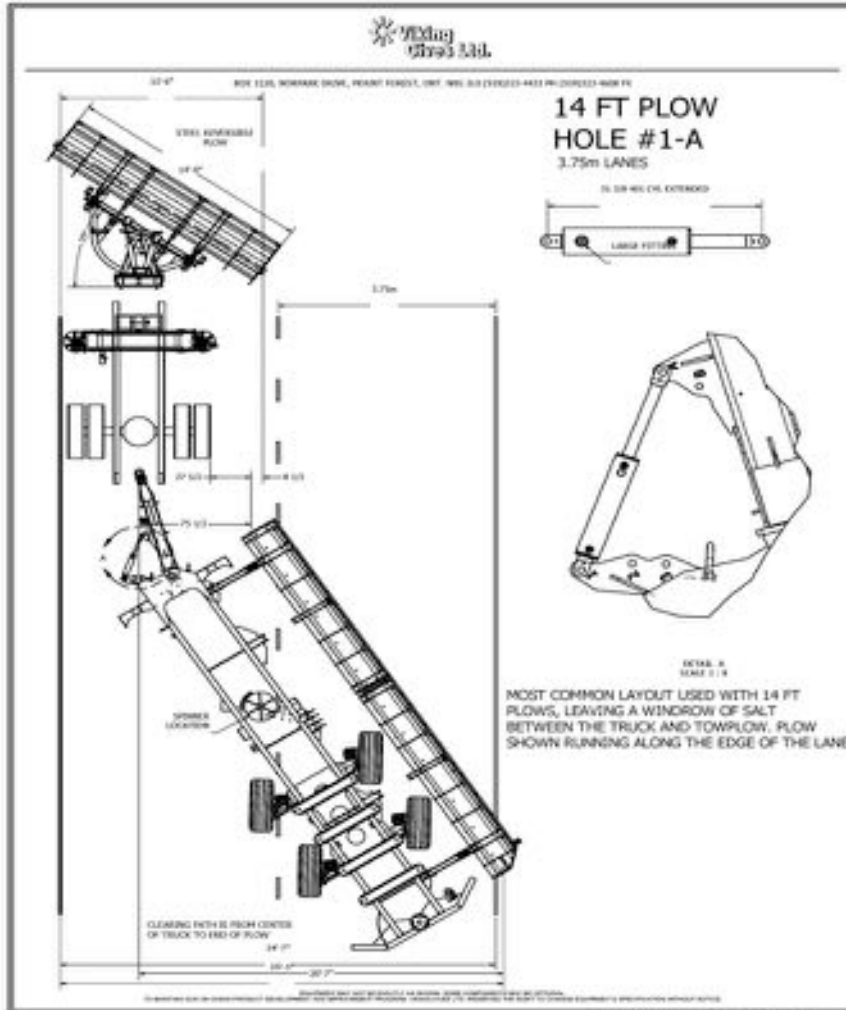
Tow Plow Operations and Maintenance

- Field Experience
 - Material placement is key – configuring your equipment to place the material where it is needed.
 - Traffic volumes are important – higher volumes = improved material performance.
 - Maintenance – keeping it clean, free of ice, snow and salt buildup keeps it out on the road working.
 - Also helps to maintain electrical and hydraulic connections.
 - Blade choice – many Ontario users are installing higher performing blade types.

Issue Solutions

- A joint Ministry/Industry/Manufacturer working group was formed to look at issues and solutions.
 - Maintenance was identified as key to performance
 - Airline connections (Straight airlines versus coiled)
 - Ensuring hydraulic pressures were relieved prior to uncoupling hydraulic lines
 - Keeping all connections clean and free of salt or sand
 - Choice of blades used directly impacts plowing performance
 - Angle of the mounted blade impacts plowing performance
 - Amount of ballast being used
 - Picking the right optional equipment to get the job done.
- The working group created a Maintenance Best Practice to identify and address the issues to ensure performance and assist in solutions.
 - This encompassed general use, personnel, equipment requirements, maintenance of the equipment, as well as operations.

Different Configurations



Know what you need and the manufacturer will build to suit

The Future

- The Ontario Ministry of Transportation, in partnership with both the manufacturer and our industry contractors, actively promotes ongoing future development to ensure that the right equipment is used in the right locations to deliver best possible performance.
- For additional information, questions or concerns feel free to contact: John Burgoyne – Maintenance Contracts Officer
Ministry of Transportation
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.
Ph: 1-705-945-6612
email: john.burgoyne@ontario.ca

Questions?