

# First-class legroom

## Power still king, but more attention paid to operator comfort

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**W**hile it's no surprise that manufacturers strive to maximize power and reduce fuel consumption and emissions, many are now beefing up their loaders with more creature comforts.

Several new wheel loaders now boast bigger cabins with more legroom and greater visibility. Operators can adjust and customize the steering wheel and controls to their liking, and fingertip controls make repetitive actions such as truck loading much less taxing. Climate controls such as heating and air conditioning allow operators to do their jobs without having to battle the elements. Liugong even isolated the cab from the frame

to reduce shock and vibration. Bottom line: A more comfortable operator can work longer and perform better.

Companies also are paying closer attention to service and maintenance. Caterpillar's Cat Product Link and Hyundai's HI-Mate systems let the operator or fleet owner remotely monitor machine performance data in real time from a computer. Kawasaki offers a similar Machine Operation Diagnostic Module (MODM) that provides details on operating systems, performance, fluids and filters. Many of the new models have ground-level access to critical components as well, allowing for easier maintenance and repair.

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### Smart loader

The newest addition to the Hyundai 9 series—the HL780-9—comes packed with new features. The wheel loader has a new load-sensing hydraulic system, integrated rear-view backup camera and a larger 6.5-cu-yd bucket. Hyundai also includes three years of the HI-Mate GPS system, which keeps the operator or fleet manager up to speed on all machine functions, such as fuel efficiency. **Circle 900**



### More torque

Kawasaki designed its new 92ZV-2 from the ground up, with power and the operator in mind. The Cummins Tier III-certified engine produces 284 fhp and boosts torque 47%, allowing the loader to climb, dig or lift heavy materials easily. Operators will appreciate the increased legroom, fingertip controls and customizable settings. **Circle 901**



### First of its kind

John Deere has introduced the industry's first Tier IV-certified engine, now available on its 744K loader. The PowerTech 9.0-L IT4 diesel meets emissions regulations while producing the same 304 hp and big-time torque as a 744K with a Tier III engine. The unit features all the other hallmarks of the K-series 4WD loaders and has undergone rigorous testing in extreme cold, high altitude and continuous-use applications. **Circle 902**