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Mitsubishi Fuso Introduces New Class 6 Low Profile Cabover for 2005

The class 6 FK200 from Mitsubishi Fuso offers significant upgrades in performance, handling, comfort, aesthetics, and value.

Newport Beach, CA, May 19, 2004 — The new 2005 FK200 cabover has been redesigned to provide the added versatility of a low profile frame that's under 36" high (unladen). As always, interior space and amenities provide operating ease for the driver and comfort for the passengers. A new, higher-torque 6-cylinder diesel engine provides increased performance. Add an appropriate body, and this new cabover from Mitsubishi Fuso should handle any vocation suitable to its class 6 rating, and low-profile chassis, including auto recovery or furniture delivery.

According to Robert McDowell, executive vice president and COO of Mitsubishi Fuso Truck of America, Inc. (MFTA). "Every year, of course," says McDowell, "we make performance and chassis improvements based on customer feedback and our own technological developments. This year, we also asked the designers to develop a truly versatile low-profile chassis for the class 6 FK, and they've done an excellent job."

New 6-cylinder diesel boosts torque

For 2005, Mitsubishi Fuso has developed a new 6M60 460-cu.-in. (7.5L) single-overhead-cam, direct injection, turbocharged, intercooled 6-cylinder diesel engine that generates 243 HP and 514 lb.-ft. of torque. The new engine can be mated to either a standard Mitsubishi 6-speed manual overdrive transmission or an optional Allison 1000 5-speed electronic overdrive automatic transmission.

Performance Specifications for 2005 Mitsubishi Fuso FK200				
Weight Class	Model	GVWR, lbs.	HP @ RPM	Torque (lb-ft) @ RPM
Class 6	FK200 w/ Mitsubishi 6-speed manual	20,935	243 @ 2600	514 @ 1400
	FK200 w/ Aisin 6-speed OD automatic	19,850	243 @ 2600	514 @ 1400

With more torque, delivered at an exceptionally low 1400 RPM, and the versatile Allison automatic transmission, the FK200 should be a natural for operation in terrain or urban environments that require driving, loaded, with frequent starts from a full stop. An overdrive switch on the shifter also allows the driver to disengage the overdrive. Being able to turn off the overdrive, in conjunction with operation of the exhaust brake, can aid downhill operation on severe grades.

Automatically adjusting, air/hydraulic drum service brakes include the added safety of ABS. The parking brake is a drum/driveline, internal-expanding-shoe type.

Stronger frames improve load capacity and driving stability

The 2005 FK200's standard-width (33.1"), straight ladder-frame chassis, just 36" off the road, provides exceptional flexibility in body choice for owners, as well as easy fit and installation for body upfitters.

Yield strength for the new FK200 frame is 51,200 psi, with an RBM of 702,976 lb.-in. per rail. Ample chassis stiffness, coupled with new multi-tapered-leaf front suspension and laminated-leaf-spring rear suspension can contribute directly to better driving stability and improved handling.

Styling refinements are an indicator of functional improvements

In addition to the chassis improvements, Mitsubishi Fuso has upgraded the FK200's cab for 2005. The new styling, though, reflects improved function that has guided the improvement in aesthetics, according to Robert J. Aquaro, vice president of product assurance at MFTA.

"Compact halogen headlamps allow more aggressive fender styling, which certainly enhances aesthetic appeal, but their greatest contribution is to improved nighttime visibility," says Aquaro.

According to Aquaro, the cab's smooth frontal surfaces also help to reduce wind noise, and the engine air intake uses a noise-reducing snorkel design with dry paper element to help make the cabin quieter and less fatiguing on the driver.

The FK200 can be ordered in four wheelbase lengths: 168.1", 179.9", 191.7" and 205.1", which accommodate 16', 18', 20' and 22' bodies, respectively. Turning diameter for the FK200

with 168.1" wheelbase is 45.2 ft. —on a par with many full-sized sport utility vehicles — so maneuvering through a job site or navigating urban streets is no problem for the new FK200.

The steering wheel tilt and telescoping adjustments allow the driver to quickly adjust the steering wheel to his or her best driving position. Instrumentation continues to be easy to read, day or night, and the most important instruments and gauges are located in direct line of sight. Day-running lights and power windows are standard, and doors include internal crush bars, to help increase frontal impact protection.

The FK200 comes standard with blue/gray cloth seating surfaces. Standard cab color is Natural White, but Arcadia Silver, Jupiter Green, Mars Red and Shannon Blue are available as factory options. Cushioned cab mounts and energy-absorbing, tilt/telescoping steering wheel are standard. An AM/FM radio with CD player is optional.

Strong warranty coverage adds to owner comfort

All Mitsubishi Fuso trucks are covered by comprehensive limited warranties that feature 100% parts and labor coverage for 24 months on vehicles and for 36 months on engine and drivetrain components, with no mileage limit. Optional service plans are also available to extend certain coverages for up to 60 months.

Warranties and extended service plans provide specific coverage and conditions; buyers should consult their local Mitsubishi Fuso dealer for details.

New global identity also evident in new models

In a move to provide consistent global identity for its extensive line of commercial vehicles, MFTA has begun to simplify their vehicle badging, commencing with the new 2005 models. In the new scheme, Mitsubishi is represented by the very familiar three-diamond logo, with the Fuso name spelled out underneath. The style is simple, the look contemporary, and the identity, still unmistakably Mitsubishi Fuso.

About Mitsubishi Fuso

Headquartered in Logan Township, NJ, MFTA markets a complete line of diesel-powered, medium-duty, cab-over trucks through more than 170 dealer locations throughout the United States and Canada. Currently, there are over 70,000 Mitsubishi Fuso vehicles in use in the U.S. and Canada, fulfilling the transportation needs of a wide variety of businesses and industries.