

10% Discounts on SmartCAN modules & Dedicated Kits In September and October

CANbus promotion

We are offering really attractive discounts to make it easier when you wish to install a CANbus interface instead of a bypass relay. A discount of 10% off all SmartCAN modules and dedicated SmartCAN kits comes into effect immediately.

SmartCAN is already one of your best options for dedicated fittings:

- Multi-compatible so you don't need to carry a large stock
- Has built in, CAN-controlled caravan 12S function
- Very easy to fit
- Accepts both 7-pin and 13-pin trailer sockets equally easily
- Available loose or in dedicated kits

Cost pressure affects customer's choice

In the current economic climate, when price is so often the factor that drives your customers' choices, they may be unwilling to choose a CANbus installation, even when it is the best choice for their vehicle.

Low price makes CANbus easier to choose

These discounts make the price gap between Bypass and CANbus much smaller. Add the other benefits of SmartCAN, plus the built-in 12S function, and you should be able to make an offer they won't refuse.

Full details at www.rydertowing.co.uk

Log onto the trade section of our website to see details and trade prices.

Don't have log on details?

If you do not have a user name or password, use the online form or phone 0161 430 1120 to open an account.



You may know that SmartCAN is Ryder Towing's true CANbus interface and that it is fully compatible with a great many vehicles.

But do you know all its capabilities?

- It is fully interactive with the vehicle CANbus - it doesn't just receive messages, it sends messages back to the CPU.
- It automatically detects the vehicle's live CANbus and gives an LED signal to tell you.
- It uses the vehicles CANbus to control its built-in 12S caravan function.
- Because the 12S function is CAN-controlled, it works perfectly even if the car has "Smart Charging".
- It is compatible with over seventy current vehicles and with dealers' diagnostic equipment.
- It enables recoding to switch on trailer-specific functions.
- It logs each time a trailer is connected and records trailer flasher function to the CPU.
- Any error data related to the trailer is stored for diagnostic analysis.
- On many cars, it works immediately, without any recode.
- It is continuously updated.

SmartCAN really does a proper job, and does it at a remarkably low price.

Recent Technical Issues and some facts about Driving Licences

10 amp input fuses on Smart Bypass

We recently raised the fuse values on the TF2218/7E series Smart Bypass from 7.5amps to 10 amps to accommodate multi brake lights on some caravans and trailers.

Some still blow

Apparently the fuse on the supply line to the brake and sidelight circuits sometimes still blows when there are more brake lights.

Protect the output lines before you uprate the fuse

Just putting a higher value fuse in the power in line would put the relay at risk but you can overcome this risk with fuses on the output side. You put 5 amp fuses in the lines out to the trailer brakes and side lights , or any circuits you want to give special protection, then uprate the fuses on the input lines for those circuits.

AL-KO ATC system. A driver reported that when he was towing a caravan equipped with ATC, the caravan brakes were applied intermittently and inappropriately. This was put down to an intermittent failure in the power supply causing the ATC to reset (it applies the brakes momentarily when resetting).

Possible causes (in my opinion)

A loose connection – this is the most likely. A slightly loose connection might never be noticed in the lighting or 12S circuits but it might take only a tiny interruption to cause an electronic sensor to reset. A loose connection could be in the power anywhere in the line to the ATC. I think it is more likely to be in one of the earth connections , either between car and caravan, within the car or within the caravan.

David Ryder



The driving licence you need for towing

As you know, the ability to tow a caravan or trailer will depend on the driving licence you hold. The category entitlement on your driving licence will determine the type of trailer you can tow.

What you may not know is that drivers who have passed their test since 1997 can tow as long as the trailer/vehicle mass weight does not exceed certain limits. This is category B.

Definition of categories B and B+E

Category	Description	Minimum age
B	Motor vehicles with a MAM not exceeding 3500kg and designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than eight passengers in addition to the driver, with a trailer up to 750kg	17*
B+E	Combinations of vehicles consisting of a vehicle in category B and a trailer, where the combination does not come within category B and the MAM of the trailer or semi-trailer does not exceed 3500kg	17*

The term maximum authorised mass (MAM) means the total weight of the vehicle plus the maximum load it can carry safely.

**Age 16 if you are getting Disability Living Allowance (mobility allowance) at the higher rate.*

New driving licence rules will come into force on 19 January 2013

New rules for drivers of cars and small vehicles (category B and BE) to tow trailers. The new rules will apply if you pass your test after that date.

Existing car or small vehicle drivers

If you already have a licence to drive cars or small vehicles (category B and BE), you'll keep your entitlement to tow trailers. Your entitlement to tow trailers will stay as it was when you passed your driving test.

New drivers from 19 January 2013

To tow heavier trailers after 19 January 2013, you'll need to follow the rules for new drivers, below.

Category B: There is no change to category B entitlement to tow trailers.

Category BE: If your trailer weighs over 750 kg and the combined trailer and towing vehicle weight is more than 3,500 kg, you'll need to pass a further test. This test will be shown on your driving licence as category BE.