

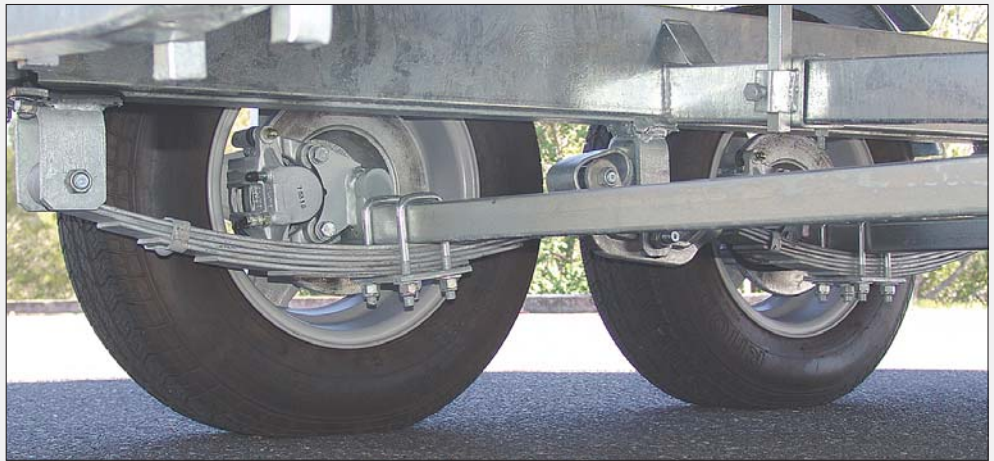
**D**ecember's horrible weather on the Gold Coast certainly impacted on many of our boat and trailer schedules.

We had to register the new Quintrex 670 Offshore Hardtop trailer, an all steel rig with an AL-KO load-sharing, leaf spring tandem suspension, driving AL-KO's new disc brakes powered by the AL-KO Sens-a-Brake power brake system. It had to be put across a weighbridge, inspected and registered. For the record, this diesel-powered rig weighed 2.5 tonnes dry, without fishing, safety equipment or personal effects onboard.

We also had the 8.3m tri-axle aluminium trailer under *Far-Away* fall due for its safety certificate inspection (done each year in Qld, on trailers weighing more than 3.5 tonnes) and registration.

Whilst completing these tasks, we ran another of our overdue tests on the much modified suspension (Blue Max shock absorbers, new parabolic forward leaf springs and rear air bags) we've recently had fitted to our F-250 from the team of suspension gurus at Brisbane's SSA - that's **Suspension Supplies Australia** - find 'em on **07 3370 3200**.

That's why we've taken that rather strange photograph of the F-250



against the gutter - not very scientific perhaps, but without a theodolite, it gave me an absolute true horizontal (gutter!) line to check how affective the airbags were working on the rear suspension, at 35psi. As you can see, they were just great, and we are looking forward to presenting a full report on this development in the near future.

Finally, to complete our month, we had to register the little Stacer 429's trailer, a single axle, unbraked Stacer trailer we'll also be using a great deal in 2008.

By the way, what a beautiful trailer it is - it's pleasing to see such good quality engineering finally going underneath small boat trailers, too.

All of these trailers will feature in different aspects of F&B's trailers and towing program in 2008.

**F&B**

