

Moveable OFFICES

The next generation of HVACR vehicles was created for durability and efficiency.

BY JORDAN BRANDES

Images courtesy of the respective companies listed.

With each passing year the truck and van market redefines what a truck can do for HVACR techs and contractors. The Internet of Things (IoT) trend—which has become so popular in HVACR equipment across the industry—now extends to trucks as well. Now techs can hook up their laptops or other equipment directly to their truck's Wi-Fi, allowing them to monitor and, in some cases, evaluate service calls while on the go.

Vehicle manufacturers know that an HVACR technician's truck or service van is really an extension of their home office.

That is why they are providing features like USB ports, charging outlets, drive-assist options and uplift packages designed to turn vans into portable offices.

Below you will find a list of highlights of 2017 and 2018 truck and van models, as well as some very practical accessories. Since durability is just as important as functionality in the field you will notice our specs point out everything from stability control to cargo mounting points. We are excited for what is in store for the trucks and vans industry in 2018 and beyond. ☁

→ A Clean, Safe Workplace ←

For an HVACR tech or contractor, the inside of a service vehicle should be well organized and safe. The featured accessories focus on safety and organization.

Whether it is a rack to keep refrigerant from spilling on the ground or a shelving unit to keep it all in place, the inside of your vehicle should be just as presentable as your home office. Here are some great van organization accessories available on the market right now:



→ **Lock Down Ladder Rack**
The single aluminum lock-down ladder rack from **American Van** has a load capacity of 500 lb and comes with stainless steel hardware that is protected by a durable white powder coat finish. Once the ladder is loaded, a turn of the handle clamps it into place. Add your own padlock to the handle mechanism to prevent ladder from being removed from the rack. **Circle 18 on the reader service card.**



→ **Car Organizer**
The Cab Commander Cab Organizer from the **Duluth Trading Co.**

features a large padded main compartment for the storage of laptop computers, clipboard or a large three-ring binder for paperwork. Side sleeves are large enough to hold a thermos or water bottle. **Circle 19 on the reader service card.**



City Express

The Chevrolet City Express features a fold-flat passenger seat that creates a flat workspace and comes with 13 storage spaces, including a place for

laptops or hanging files. The van was designed with a maximum cargo length of 82.8 in. behind the front seat and 48 in. of load width between the wheel wells. **Circle 1 on the reader service card.**

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Express Cargo

The Chevrolet Express Cargo can be personalized both on the interior and exterior to meet the needs of any business. Extended Wheelbase models

offer 313.9 cu. ft. of cargo space while an available 4G LTE Wi-Fi allows drivers to connect up to seven devices while on the road. **Circle 2 on the reader service card.**



E-Series

The 2018 Ford E-Series Cutaway comes equipped with a fleet tracking system which allows the driver to monitor a wide range of performance

metrics including vehicle location, speed, hard braking or acceleration, excessive idling, seat belt use, oil life and engine temperature in real time. **Circle 3 on the reader service card.**



→ Refrigerant Tank Rack

The refrigerant tank rack from **Kargo Master** is designed to hold four 30 lb tanks up to 9.75 in. in diameter. The rack is built with

a heavy-duty 1/4 in. steel bar and four tiers of 14 gauge metal shelf plates for superior structural integrity. Each tier is slightly tilted backward, allowing tanks to be cradled securely inside the tank rack. **Circle 20 on the reader service card.**



→ Upfit Package

The Plumbing, Heating and A/C Repair

upfit package from **Adrian Steel** features ADseries 44 in. stamped steel shelving with drawer units, door kits, utility hooks, dividers, a welded tank rack and a vice mount. The shelves are 46 in. high by 14 in. deep and come in lengths of 32 in., 44 in. and 50 in. wide. **Circle 21 on the reader service card.**



→ Underbed Box

The 524-3-02 underbed box from

Weather Guard has a gutter design and weather striping that protects against the elements to keep contents dry. Tool-less quick release doors adjust from 90 degree to 180 degree with QuickClips, no tools required. An aluminum door and hinge reduces box weight and protects against corrosion. **Circle 22 on the reader service card.**

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Transit Connect

The 2017 Ford Transit Connect Commercial's front passenger seat can be folded flat to serve as a writing surface or a platform for a laptop. The optional SYNC 3

console allows the driver to combine iPhone Bluetooth capabilities with voice activated commands. **Circle 4 on the reader service card.**



Transit Cutaway

The 2017 Ford Transit Cutaway comes equipped with power rack and pinion steering and two-way manual (fore/aft/recline) driver and passenger, driver-side arm-

rests with driver-side and passenger-side airbags. The truck also comes with an optional full-trip computer to accurately log each job. **Circle 5 on the reader service card.**



Super Duty Chassis Cab

The 2017 Ford Super Duty Chassis Cab's factory-installed programmable upfitter interface module allows a direct Controller Area Network (CAN)

programmable logic interface to control devices using a laptop or notebook. The interior comes with six upfitter switches that includes two 40-amp switches (ignition on or off) plus four 25-amp switches (ignition on). **Circle 6 on the reader service card.**



Transit Cargo Van

The 2018 Ford Transit cargo van has a maximum towing capability of 7,500 lb. Front, rear and side rails are welded with the floor pan, crossmembers

and torque boxes to form a single body. Low-roof models come with passenger-side 60/40 hinged cargo doors or optional sliding door, while the medium- and high-roof models have a standard passenger-side sliding cargo door. **Circle 7 on the reader service card.**



NV Cargo

The Nissan NV3500 Cargo was designed with flat loading floors that can fit two 40 in. x 48 in. pallets. The vehicle was built with 57 interior integrated and

reinforced cargo mounting points for rack installation or installing shelving. Three available cargo lights allow for easier working at night. **Circle 8 on the reader service card.**



Titan XD

The Titan XD Crew Cab from Nissan has a towing capacity of up to 11,260 lb with 2,440 lb payload capacity. The Advanced Drive-Assist®

display allows the driver access to everything from GPS directions to caller ID. The NissanConnect option taps into nearby smartphones allowing drivers access to emails while driving. **Circle 9 on the reader service card.**



NV200

The Nissan NV200 comes with a mobile office style center console complete with storage for laptops and documents. The van also comes equipped

with six exterior roof rack-mounting points and 20 interior integrated reinforced cargo-mounting points. **Circle 10 on the reader service card.**

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Promaster

The sidewalls of the 2018 RAM Promaster are constructed at an almost 90 degree angle, making it easier to stack, carry and load boxes. The van features up to 17 floor and sidewall

tie-downs to help secure cargo. Rear doors swing open 260 degrees and fold nearly flat against the van's exterior.

Circle 11 on the reader service card.



Promaster City

The 2018 RAM Promaster City has a maximum payload of 1,883 lb and a maximum roof load weight of 150 lb. A class-exclusive bi-link rear

coil suspension kicks in to compensate for over- or under-steering by applying the necessary brakes to help keep the van going in the intended direction. **Circle 12 on the reader service card.**



Metris Cargo Van

The 2017 Mercedes-Benz Metris cargo van comes with a standard Attention Assist feature that helps prevent drowsy drivers by monitoring driving patterns and

providing an early warning in case fatigue is detected. A visual parking aid is activated in the dashboard of the vehicle when the reverse gear is selected, allowing the driver more control.

Circle 15 on the reader service card.



H350

The Hyundai H350 van has a cargo capacity of up to 455.55 ft³ that can accommodate five Euro pallets (47.2 in. × 31.5 in. × 5.7 in.) in its 12 ft long wheel-

base model. The standard Advanced battery management system (ABMS) regenerates breaking energy in the vehicle, maximizing input to ensure that the battery is always at peak efficiency while saving energy. **Circle 13 on the reader service card.**



Savana Cargo

The GMC Savana cargo van comes equipped with an available 4G Wi-Fi hotspot and Bluetooth[®] capabilities for select phones, Intellilink as well as remote

vehicle start and entry. Tow/haul mode provides a dual-mode shift program that lets the driver hold gears longer, giving them more torque and providing a smooth transition between gears when climbing hills. **Circle 16 on the reader service card.**



Sprinter Cargo Van

The 2017 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter cargo van 2500 comes with a Crosswind Assist feature that helps the driver stabilize the vehicle and boosts safety

during strong, gusting crosswinds. The van also comes with an available high roof option allowing the driver to fit more tools. **Circle 14 on the reader service card.**



Sierra 3500HD

The Sierra 3500HD from GMC has an available large center console with space for hanging file folders, and laptops. The truck also is

equipped with hydraulic body and engine mounts help reduce vibration. **Circle 17 on the reader service card.**