

Portable Alignment Equipment: A Straight Shooter, Or Too Good To Be Tru



Tru-Line has made available their portable, wheel-mounted TL-12 laser alignment system for use on passenger cars, light trucks, and larger vehicles such as 1-ton trucks, utility trucks and RVs. Features of the TL-12 include:

- The system does not require a dedicated lift, bay, rack or level surface.
- Can be used to find measurements such as caster, camber, SAI, 2-wheel, thrust line and total wheel toe measurements.
- Caster and camber measurements can be obtained even on non-level surfaces.
- According to Tru-Line, the TL-12 can be used on all vehicles, including those with smaller rims or dual rear axles.
- It runs on D-cell batteries, without the use of cables or computers.
- A training video and instruction manual are included.
- It's covered with a 2-year warranty.

Tru-Line claims that their unit provides the accuracy and durability needed to withstand the rig-

ors of today's service bay, and meet the expectations of technicians, service shops, and, most importantly, their customers.

So let's hear what Innovation Award Panelist and ASE-Certified Master Technician Don Dahl thought when he put the TL-12 to work in his San Leandro, CA bay.

The Results

The key benefits Dahl and his crew identified were:

- "The biggest advantage of the Tru-line system is it's smaller size. It can easily be stored in a corner, or on a wall until needed.
- "Also, its ability to perform alignments in any hard-surfaced bay, or even a parking lot for larger vehicles, is a huge plus, especially in locations like the San Francisco Bay area where shop space is very expensive.
- "Also, the surface does not have to be flat, due to a Level Compensator Bar that allows for simple calibration of the EZ-Check Angle Gauge, which measures not only camber and

caster, but also SAI.

- "The unit's durability is another key feature. Usually dropping a gauge, such as the angle-checking gauge, would mean recalibration, or replacement, but this unit appears to be technician-proof.
- "The unit was also very easy to use and can provide toe measurements in inches, millimeters or degrees, which can be important if you use the factory specs for either foreign or domestic vehicles.
- "One area where the unit really shines is in it's ability to perform motor home alignments with the optional wheel clamps for handling 24" wheels, which could also include servicing larger commercial trucks and buses.

Tru-Line has also recently introduced a Data Recorder unit for viewing and printing-out results. (see page 44)

For more information on Tru-Line's TL-12 wheel-mounted, portable laser alignment system:

Indicate 112 on inquiry card or click "e-inquiry" at www.pten.com