# **DECISION PAPER**



May 10, 2018

#### Issue

**Downhill Ski Resort Snow Grooming Machine Replacement** 

### **Background**

Grooming machine (snowcat) replacement at our winter operations has evolved over the years based on our experience. The fleet at the ski resort consists of two machines – a 2010 Prinoth Bison X (Bison) and a 2012 Pisten Bully Park 400 (PB). The reserve replacement schedule had the replacement of the Bison scheduled for 2017. This replacement was pushed back to 2018 as a result of a few drought years where the machines did not accumulate very many hours. It has been the philosophy of Tahoe Donner to replace machines once they approach or surpass 7,000 hours (usually every 7 years) as there is a known steep increase in the cost of ownership at or near the 7,000-hour mark. The details of this increase is detailed in the Cross Country Ski Area Snow Grooming Machine Replacement decision paper.

Even with all the appropriate maintenance, the reliability of the snowcat begins to decline as it ages as well. Properly functioning, reliable machines are incredibly important to the downhill operation. The beginner experience is enhanced with well groomed terrain, and our relatively small size creates an expectation that all runs are groomed daily. While breakdowns are not uncommon, they are more frequent with older machines. Repair can take a machine out of service for several days, or even weeks, while parts are ordered. With only two snowcats on the hill, when a machine goes down, 50% of the fleet is out of commission, and hours begin to stack up on the remaining machine. In the event of challenging weather conditions, portions of the mountain may not be groomed. Avoiding large mechanical issues associated with older equipment, also allows us to keep our maintenance team small and efficient.

### **Options**

There are a few options to consdider for this replacement:

Option 1: Approve the purchase of a new snowcat for the Downhill Ski Resort fleet – current budget

\$397,450.

Option 2: Pospone the replacement of the Downhill Ski Reort snowcat for another year risking

significant repair costs and labor commitment as well as an increase in down time.

#### Recommendation:

Staff recommends Option 1, to use scheduled Reserve and Replacement Funds to Replace the 2010 Bison-X Snowcat with a 2018 Pisten Bully PB400 Park Pro with a budget not to exceed of \$371,500 which includes tax and shipping – approximately \$25,950 below our budget. The *estimated* trade-in value for the current machine is \$15,000 - \$20,000 which will be deducted from the total purchase price once the value is determined.

Prepared By: Miguel Sloane, Robert McClendon

Reviewed by: Forrest Huisman Michael Salmon

General Manager Approval to place on the agenda:

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### PB 400/Bison X Comparison:

	PB 400	Bison X		
Tier 4 Machine		\$342,000		\$320,000
Delivery		\$0		\$4,750
Тах		\$29,070		\$27,604
Warranty		2 years		1 year
14	Total	\$ 371,070	\$	352,354

### Staff recommendation - PB 400

- Pisten Bully offers a 2-year warranty versus Prinoth's 1-year warranty.
- Efficiencies in staff training, part inventory compatibility, and service calls are realized when we have machines from the same manufacturer.
- Staff's experience with both manufacturers is that Pisten Bully's service is superior to Prinoth.

			<b>Total Repair Cost</b>					
	DH Machines	Purchased	2015	2016	2017	YTD 2018	Total	Hours as of 4/5/18
0	GR217- BISON X		\$1,633	\$15,579	\$23,441	\$4,693	\$45,345	6717
12	GR219- PB PARK 400		\$135	\$5,767	\$19,162	\$1,348	\$26,412	3476

2010

For perfect pistes...



5/7/2018

Robert McClendon Tahoe Donner Downhill Ski Area Manager 11509 Northwoods Blvd., Truckee, CA 96161

Dear Robert,

Please see below my proposal for new Prinoth grooming vehicles as requested.

### 1 New 2018 New Bison X Tier 4 Grooming vehicle equipped as follows:

Caterpillar C9.3 405hp engine - Tier 4

Master Park Blade w/Side Cutter Wings

66" Aluminum Tracks

**New 45 Series Rexroth Drives** 

Posi-Flex Tiller W/Hydraulic finisher wings and Posi Hyds w/flat lock

High Output Hydraulic Controls w/Proportional Dual Functions

Center operator seat

Long Rear Lift Frame

LED Lights

**Inclinometers and Tape Measure Function** 

Solid Rubber Tires

**Heated Glass and Wipers** 

**Vehicle Price:** 

\$320,000.00

### 1 New 2018 New Husky Grooming Vehicle Tier 4 equipped as follows:

Master Blade

3.1 Meter Aluminum tracks

All season rubber tracks

Power Tiller w hydraulic finisher wings

Drive lever steering controls

MTU Tier 4 230 HP engine

Vehicle Price:

\$215,000.00

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1 New Snow Loading Bucket Price:	\$12,500.00
1 Set Rubber Tracks Bison Price:	\$30,000.00
1 Set Rubber Tracks Husky:	\$25,000.00

### **Additional Incentives:**

- > Service school at no charge for 4 people per resort
- Operator and shop training at no charge

# \*\* All prices and terms of this proposal are considered confidential and do not include sales tax.

### Terms:

20% down at contract signature and balance due at delivery

### Warranty:

Vehicle: 1 year or 1500 hours

Engine: Standard Caterpillar and MTU warranty

### Freight:

\$4,750.00 per vehicle

I look forward to discussing the proposal with you in more detail, in the meantime if you need more information, please don't hesitate to call.

**Best Regards** 

Jason Smith Sales Representative

# **Pricing**

• 2018 PB 400 (Tier 4) ParkPro

\$342,000

### Above pricing includes:

Complimentary Shipping to Tahoe Donner Constant Up/Down Pressure Rexroth Hydraulics Hydraulic Tiller Wings





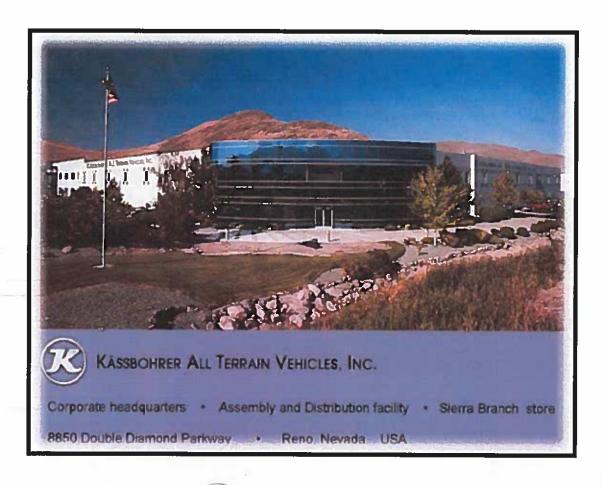
## **Incentives**

All new PistenBullys have a TWO year limited warranty.

Technical Service Center is always: 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Kassbohrer representative to provide onsite assistance with your first summer service.

Kassbohrer's North American headquarters in Reno, Nevada proves our commitment to Tahoe Donner. This facility contains the Sierra Office and over 10 million dollars in parts inventory in addition to the utility production facility.





## **Parts**

PistenBully's North American parts warehouse is located in Reno, NV. allowing Tahoe Donner same day accessibility to millions of parts.

PistenBully's parts department is open six days a week during the winter season, and is available Sundays for urgent orders with no additional charge.

Our Parts Department averages a 93% fill rate and can be ordered online with the Electronic Parts List





# **Peace of Mind**

Routine visits by factory trained staff to assist your operators and technical staff with the Kassbohrer product.

Annual service and parts training to educate, train and prepare your staff.

Kässbohrer World



Kassbohrer has been manufacturing snow cats for over 49 years. We have produced over 22,500 machines and are successful in 68 different countries. Our experience and quality can't be beat!

Technical and Product information located on our website:

# www.pistenbullyusa.com

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