The Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) in South Australia has a fleet of six Broons Combination Rollers with Grid Roll Drums to maintain the roads in their 750,000 square kilometres area.

Their area includes the famous Strzelecki, Birdsville and Oodnadatta Tracks as well as the roads around the picturesque Flinders Ranges, so it's essential the equipment used for their maintenance is reliable and doesn't cause any problems for the Operators in these remote and isolated areas.

The Department has used Broons' BH-1830GR Combination Grid Rollers for the last six years for either re-sheeting or patrol grading throughout the vast area and they have performed with distinction. So much so, that the Department is about to take delivery of its first BH-1830 Smooth Drum Combination Roller replacing a competitor's unit "which is slowly disintegrating".

Trevor Graetz, Fleet Management Officer at DTEI, says they have the units for dual purposes.

"When we're re-sheeting roads we source rubble from local borrow pits. We use a Broons BH-14H Grid Roller for the larger material and a Broons BH-1830GR Combination Roller with a custom fabricated grid roll drum for the smaller rock. We then finish off using the smooth tread compactor tyres on the Combination Roller which provides a durable running surface."

"Although the patrol gangs have dedicated grid rollers they also use a Smooth Drum and tyres for compaction and to break up the clumping-type material."

"The patrol grading gangs are basically out there keeping the roads in good order and condition so they use the tyres a lot."

"However, general maintenance has suffered over the last 12 months because of the amount of flood damage in the Far North of our State. The Birdsville Track is currently closed and the Strzelecki has been mostly closed, and it is still raining as we speak. The maintenance gang has been mainly working to fix this damage, and the Combination Rollers have been put to good use."

"The Broons rollers are very robust, solid units that don’t give us
any trouble, and I like them, and let’s face it, Broons give good service too,” Trevor concluded.

A Broons BH-1830 Combination Roller can be as flexible as the customer wants. It can be a combination of Smooth Drum and Multi-Tyre (BH-1830), Grid Roll Drum and Multi-Tyre (BH-1830GR) or just a Multi-Tyre Roller (BH-1830M).

With a rolling width of 1830mm and a gross weight of up to 14 tonnes the Broons Combination Roller can be specified with a combination of tyres and drum type that best suits a customer’s individual needs. Broons make many combinations, so there’s sure to be one that’s ideal for any specific requirement.

A Broons Combination Roller is easy to use and simple to change from tyres to drum and back again. It’s a straightforward operation that can be done from the ease of the operator’s seat on some models.

Broons experienced technical staff can give you details on hiring or buying a machine and can be contacted on (08) 8268 1988.