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India

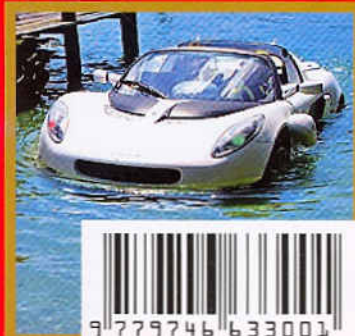
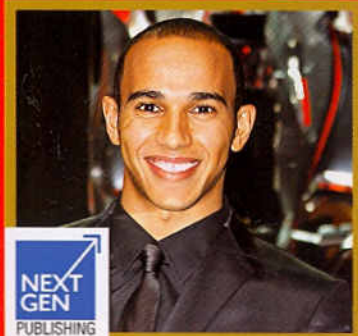


THE CAR 1000



THE 100 THINGS THAT MATTERED IN 2008

Breathtaking Concepts **Best Cars** Biggest
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NEXT
GEN
PUBLISHING



Exciting New 'Dashboard' for A1 GP fans

A free download feature from A1GP.com, the new Dashboard is sure to be a hit amongst fans



A1GP.COM HAS LAUNCHED a new 'Dashboard' feature for fans to download and follow during A1 GP races. Fans will now be able to access a host of new information including real-time position maps, detailing the exact location of every race car on track, along with a live feed

of dashboard information from every A1GP nation's car. A viewer can select to view any of the 22 team's real-time steering wheel data, including speed, throttle pressure, G-force, gear and how many applications of the crucial Power Boost button they have left.

EXPECTED TO CANNIBALIZE sales of its top competitors – the Innova in India's multi utility vehicle segment and the Logan in the taxi segment – Mahindra & Mahindra's diesel XYLO made its debut in the capital. The car, codenamed Ingenio in its development stage, will also rival other vehicles like the Chevy Tavera. Priced competitively, the XYLO aims to sweep a significant share of the country's sedan

market as well. Fitted with a 2.5-litre CRDe (common rail diesel engine) like the Scorpio, the XYLO's motor is tuned for more power and torque and christened mEagle CRDe. The new vehicle, available in four variants - E2, E4, E6 and E8, will be produced on the same assembly line as the Scorpio and rolled out from the company's Nasik based manufacturing plant.

Betting big on the XYLO

M&M's next big sting after the Scorpio



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UNWRAPPED

After hiding behind camouflages for years, the XYLO is out to attack its prey



Verdict

Chevrolet upgraded the Tavera with the Neo series launched last year. It comes with added features and better looking interiors. But in the company of the M&M and Toyota, the Tavera still looks outdated. The design is showing its age and the whole package doesn't seem worth it for someone spending more than 10 lakh rupees. However, Chevrolet also sells the base variant for over three lakh cheaper than the top end version which translates into a good value buy. The Tavera also is the most fuel efficient vehicle here and outclasses its rivals in that department by a commendable margin.

The Innova has held the crown for the best MUV in India for three years. It not only serves a major chunk of the commercial segment, but also doubles up as a terrific family vehicle. The legendary Toyota reliability, a proven engine and plush interiors further make this a very good buy. Of course all this comes at a premium and there is a reason why customers are willing to pay more than a

million Indian rupees. It seems the sales of the Innova won't really be affected by the new entrant.

When was the last time you heard of parking sensors in a MUV? Or a multi-information display? Or flat bed seats that allows you to sleep in comfort on the move? The XYLO packs in a lot of features to provide the best in class combination of comfort and practicality. The pricing has not only made the competition scratch its head but given shivers to quite a few sedans as well. It might not be great to look at but the view of the angry front face in the rear view mirror helps others give you way on the road. Four years in the making, homegrown brand M&M has pulled off a genuine winner here that it can proudly flaunt and pat its back for the effort. There are a few downfalls like an unsettled ride quality, nervous dynamics at high speeds or the debatable looks, but for a typical Indian joint family on a budget, this vehicle is the definite answer. The wait it seems has been well worth it.

