

(19) CV component of the year

Nominees: (a) Autolite head lamp for Tata Ace face lift (b) Varsha Forgings torque rod (c) Meritor tandem axle.

Winner: Meritor tandem axle



R Ramakrishnan, SVP - Commercial Vehicle Business, Tata Motors Ltd., presenting the award to Thimmaiah N P, MD & CEO, and Kamaljeet Nandkeolyar, Director - Defence & Speciality Business, Meritor (India).

A formidable field on its own, the CV magazine arrived at these three nominations on the merit of technology, market performance, price, and relevance to category. Each entry was subjected to a detailed scrutiny, and attention was paid to the infrastructure and capabilities of the suppliers, which make these products. The tandem axle by Meritor stood out for the technology and value engineering it packed. Consisting of front drive steer tandem axles and rear drive tandem axles for 8x8 vehicle applications, the product finds use in a modern CV platform. If the product highlights value engineering in terms of cost savings and adaptability to the needs of the clients, it was designed, developed and manufactured in India. Employing a hub reduction drivetrain mechanism, the product has a rating of 9- to 10-tonnes, and is designed to perform in extreme situations. The unique features include optimised cast housings, planetary wheel ends, differential locks and central tyre inflation system (CTIS). The high ground clearance meets military requirements as well. The axles also meet other configuration requirements of 4x4, 6x6 and 10x10 applications, and are suitable for any kind of on- and off-highway all-wheel drive medium and heavy-duty vehicles.

(20) CV Dealer of the Year

Nominees: a) Wasan Trucking Pvt. Ltd. (b) T V Sundaram Lyengar & Sons Ltd. (c) Bhandari Automobiles Pvt. Ltd.

Winner: Wasan Trucking Pvt. Ltd.



Takashi Kikuchi, MD, Isuzu Motors India, giving way the award to Kasturilal Wasan, MD, Wasan Trucking.

They are the OEM's interface. An important element in the CV ecosystem that either conveys a good impression about the manufacturer, or otherwise. Left with an amount of operating costs to handle, and in a situation where the needs of the buyers are changing, dealers have to exude much professionalism. They are expected to evolve; respond to market changes quickly, and keep those who look up to them, happy and satisfied. 54 year-old, Wasan Trucking drew attention because it boasts of a market share of around 60 per cent in the Mumbai region for the LCV segment. Having a presence at key points like Panvel, Vasai and Bhiwandi, Wasan Trucking started its BharatBenz dealership in 2012. First to deliver a BharatBenz truck in India, Wasan Trucking invested in a modern 3S facility at the above mentioned locations. It also invested in a 1S facility at Chembur. Introducing a range of garage equipments to reduce vehicle downtime, it also has a mobile van that takes care of a breakdown in the dealership's area of operation. A pro-serve partner of BharatBenz, Wasan Trucking is poised to serve its clients in a better and more transparent manner.