COVER STORY |

SMALL PEOPLE MOVER OF THE YEAR

Nominees: a) Mahindra Jeeto Minivan b) Tata Magic Express.

ersatile to the core, small people movers slot between three-wheeled people movers and those that weigh over 2.5-tonnes. Sharing the platform with cargo carrying counterparts, small people movers have evolved over time. Serving the feeder service market, small families looking for budget movers, school children and a variety of other commuters, small people movers are compact, efficient, strong and reliable. The winner this year, the Tata Magic Express is based on the Tata Ace platform. Featuring a full metal body and full-size rear side doors, the vehicle is powered by a 798cc two cylinder common-rail diesel engine that produces 40 hp. Transmission is a five-speed unit, and the front and rear suspension are made up of parabolic leaf springs. Salient features of the Tata Magic Express include 460-litre luggage space behind the third row, roof liner, grab handles, demister, foot steps, digital clock, mobile charger socket, provision for electronic fare meter and fan.



(L to R): Pramod Kumar Duggal, Vice President, Subros; Aniruddha Kulkarni (Head, Engineering - SCV & Pickup), and Girish Wagh, Head - Commercial Vehicles, Tata Motors.

SPECIAL APPLICATION CV OF THE YEAR

Nominees: a) Volvo FM 460 Puller b) Volvo Tree Transplanter c) Tata Signa 2518.K Boom Pump d) Eicher Pro 1049 Garbage Tipper e) Eicher Pro 110XP Reefer truck.

pecial application CVs address special needs of the market. They are engineered to perform a task, or a series of tasks, that requires them to be equipped and worthy of the job. Special application CVs are an outcome of an extensive study of their target audience. They are specialised to the core. The special application CV that drew attention is the Volvo Tree Transplanter. It is based on the Volvo FMX 460 8x4 truck platform, and moves as well as transplants trees with a tree spade. Mounted on the Volvo FMX 460 truck is thus a hydraulically-operated tree spade that performs the task of up rooting the tree with the root ball. Drastically reducing the time it takes to up root a tree and transplant it manually, the Volvo tree transplanter is aimed at construction and infrastructure projects where widening of roads or erection of new building can necessitate the shift of trees from one place to another. The survival rate of trees is said to be 75 per cent.



Business, Volvo Trucks India.