

RSB to move up value chain

RSB Transmissions (I) Limited is a leading manufacturer of automotive components and systems and heavy fabricated construction equipment aggregates. It manufactures propeller shafts, which it already supplies to Tata Motors, Ashok Leyland and AMW. The company will soon begin supplying to DICV too. RSB is also known for its range of axle and axle beams, including front axles (LCV and tractors), trailer axle beams, tag and banjo axle beams. The idea is to build on this portfolio. 'We are looking to get into the manufacture of axles for sub-9 tonne LCVs, given the tremendous growth in this segment. Currently we only make front axles for LCVs. But, based on a customer tie-up, we could get into the drive axle space too,' reveals SK Behera, VC and MD RSB Group.

Fully finished gears and shafts, precision machined aluminum and ferrous castings, kingpins and fifth wheel couplers (supplied to Tata Motors and AMW) and shifter sleeves are also part of the RSB Group's portfolio. The company also produces heavy fabrication and aggregates such as frames including undercarriages, upper carriages, arms, booms and buckets for the construction equipment segment. RSB, headquartered in Pune has 12



manufacturing plants spread across Jamshedpur, Pune, Dharwad, Chennai, Pantnagar, Cuttack and one each in the US, Belgium and Mexico. The 13th and 14th plants are coming up in Lucknow and Cuttack. Backing these products and production facilities is the RSB Group's engineering solutions arm, I-Design Engineering Solutions Ltd.

RSB's specialisation in heavy fabrication has enabled it to cater to the requirements of the trailer industry. The Group is the only trailer manufacturer in India with its own axle manufacturing facility. The trailers are lighter thanks to better design, with the use of laser

technology allowing for better wheel alignment. A parallel I-beam has been developed for better strength to weight ratio. A strategic alliance has been formed with a reputed axle manufacturer in Germany, for the latest technology, which includes ABS, Disc brake, air suspension, liftable axle and bogey axle. The group expects the trailer business to grow by 50 percent yoy. Big fleet operators like Siddhivinayak and Linfox are our customers. We supply trailer applications such as skeletal, flat-bed coil carriers and container carriers. Among the applications that we are working on, are car-carriers,' discloses Behera. ☐

Valeo to delve into CV market

Registering its first ever presence at the Auto Expo, Valeo has showcased a range of products. These include, ReStart, a reinforced starter, a component of Valeo's Stop Start systems, and integrated speaker control unit for parking assistance, wherein a loud speaker is connected to the ultrasonic parking sensor, LED lighting systems and a Wi-Fi rear camera that links with a smartphone. Thus the smart phone substitutes the navigation screen. Also on display was the water cooled charge air cooled compact brazed aluminum



heat exchanger cooled by water. This air cooler improves acceleration and reduces consumption by up to 2 percent relative to conventional air-air cooler. Also on display are the company's clutch, with self adjusting technology (SAT) that enables the driver to change gears with constant effort on the clutch pedal. So far, the bulk of these products have been supplied to the passenger car sector, but Valeo is gradually beginning to take in the CV segment. 'We have supplied clutches to Tata and M&M and the clutch assist to ALL. Going forward, we

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