

Motor Industry News Leyland Australia

September, 1972



NEW LAND ROVER.

Centre of attention at the London Commercial Vehicle Show at Earls Court this month will be a completely new Forward Control Military Land Rover, powered by the all-aluminium Rover 3.5 litre V8.

The new Land Rover makes its debut at the show which starts on September 22.

The forward control Land Rover has been designed to meet British military requirements for a one-tonne capacity vehicle for use in conjunction with a powered axle trailer of the same capacity.

Together they provide a compact, high mobility cross country unit with a payload capacity of two tonnes.

The unit will feature in multi-purpose roles such as general services cargo/personnel carrier, signals and radio communications vehicle and gun towing.

The British Army has adopted the new Land Rover as its standard one-tonne 4x4 vehicle and a substantial contract has been placed by the Ministry of Defence.

A number of military forces overseas are also expressing interest in the vehicle.

Although designed primarily as a military vehicle, the unit's specification is expected to attract considerable interest from commercial fleet users.

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CARS	AUSTIN	BUSES	COACHES	FOUR WHEEL	TRACTORS	ROAD ROLLERS
ROVER	MORRIS	LEYLAND	AB DENNING	DRIVE	LEYLAND	GRADERS
JAGUAR	MG	TRUCKS	PRESSED METAL	LANDROVER		AVELING-BARFORD
DAIMLER	TRIUMPH	LEYLAND		RANGEROVER		

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The forward control, powered rear axle configuration is common in military usage, but unusual in commercial applications. It is suitable for special purpose uses, such as fire or crash tenders, ambulances, hydraulic platforms and vehicle recovery.

Demonstrating again the incredible versatility of the Range Rover four wheel drive vehicle, will be two adaptations: a police patrol vehicle and a fully equipped ambulance, with extended wheelbase and raised roof.

Also on display will be five versions of the Land Rover, each built to a different specification.

Since its introduction in 1948, more than 800,000 Land Rovers have been built (about 75 per cent exported) with current Land Rover production at 1000 units a week.

The new military Land Rover's forward control configuration allows the maximum possible loading area for a given vehicle length, with the rear body section designed to provide a low payload area to achieve low centre of gravity with a necessarily high under-body clearance.

The alloy V8 develops 150 BHP in this vehicle and drives through a gearbox similar to the Range Rover's, with eight forward speeds and two reverse, in two ranges. Ratios range from 75:1 in low first to 6.54:1 in high range top for highway cruising.

Transmission drive to the trailer is designed to operate through any angle up to 60 degrees and in any direction, so all six wheels remain on the ground, giving maximum performance and traction over rough terrain.