


unstoppable

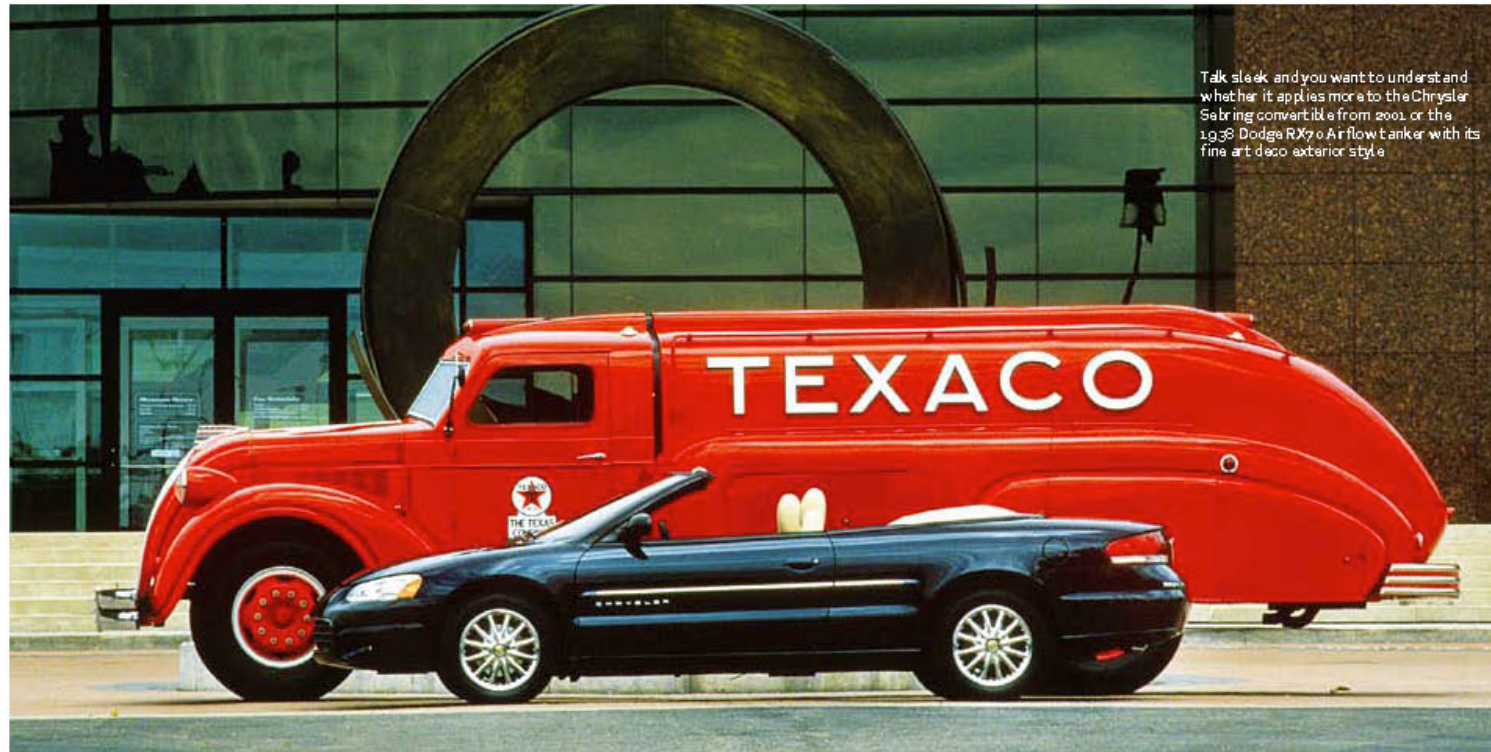
1938 DODGE AIRFLOW

Streamliners are not a modern day innovation in the CV sphere and certainly not a rarity in the 1930s as this Texaco fuel tanker based on a rare Dodge Airflow illustrates. Not more than 249 such Dodge RX70 Airflows were built but they sure did show the direction for CVs to head into the area of style and ornamentation.

Edition 6 of a special CV series by
 **APOLLO TYRES**



This 1938 RX70 Dodge Airflow in the all red Texaco colours is part of the massive Harry Ford Museum in Detroit. Distinctive and very rare, it is in complete running order.



Talk sleek and you want to understand and whether it applies more to the Chrysler Sebring convertible from 2001 or the 1938 Dodge RX70 Airflow tanker with its fine art deco exterior style

WHENEVER YOU SEE TRACTOR HEADS FROM ANY of the large modern day truck makers - Volvo, Iveco, Mercedes-Benz or even some of the Tata Novus vehicles, you will make out that they have tried to maximise their creativity in the overall aesthetics while also trying to imbibe some of the aerodynamics to the brick-like full frontal face of these huge rigs. Most notable is the employment of soft rounded curves wherever appropriate and also a large curvy roof area so as to propel airflow over and above the huge cab area. This zeal to design in the modern day is mostly governed by energy efficiency and performance but things had begun moving in the same direction as far back as the early 1930s at the Chrysler Corporation in the USA.

In 1934, Chrysler introduced its revolutionary streamlined automobiles under the Chrysler and DeSoto marques with Airflow being the model name. The Airflows became a major hit amongst the aficionados and broke many new innovations



APOLLO TYRES LTD.
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Never wary of progress, never skeptical about success,
never scared of challenges, never tired of trying,
every step of the way we travel with our customers,
on the 'unstoppable' journey to success.

stemming from the smooth flowing bodywork. With the Airflow Imperial, it heralded the advent of the first American car with a curved, single-piece windshield.

Dodge, which was part of the Chrysler Corporation and into trucks besides cars, had the reputation of dependability built into each of its products. The Airflow suddenly appealed to the truck engineers and they picked a leaf from the Airflow cars and decided to make a special series of streamlined tanker trucks with the same flowing-style treatment. The RX70 Airflow came powered with a 331-cu.in, 100 HP six-cylinder motor and was a real icon of its time and certainly the very first streamlined commercial vehicle ever. Decades ahead of anything in its class, its sleek hood-lines attest to a brief time in the 1930s when CV makers were adventurous enough to showcase great style on trucks. Just 249 of these Airflow tankers were produced between 1934 and 1940 and this is one of the few unstoppable survivors.