

**UNSTOPPABLE**


## **PORSCHE TRACTOR!**

Has Porsche ever made anything else but sports cars? Well it also did the Volkspflug (German for "people's plough") in the 1950s, a series of tractors which were produced first by Allgaier and later by Porsche Diesel Motorenbau, a wholly owned division of engineering giant Mannesmann.



Edition 4 of a special CV series by

**APOLLO TYRES**



**APOLLO TYRES LTD.**

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**UNSTOPPABLE**

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.

xxxxxx The advent of Ford in the automotive world at the turn of the last century was momentous in more ways than one. For one, it didn't achieve immediate success but in its second avatar it soon got things happening, the most apparent being the delivery and appeal of mobility to the masses. The Model T did the trick and Ford's assembly line process (picked up its said from a firm making pistols and rifles) helped churn out millions of these vehicles. Not only was the motor car within the purview of the common man, it also helped with the industrialisation of the USA while also changing the face of transport completely.

The horseless carriage took sway of all modes of transport - people, goods, mail, etc. It became the ideal complement to the railway system and all of a sudden the commercial angle began to get even more vocal. If affordable mobility could come to the commoners, surely mail could be hastened quickly to those it was meant for and the first ever commercial vehicles in the US were those order by the US Post Office. As such to carry parcels and letters the open canvas roofed Model T's were definitely inadequate so the full panel delivery van came into being, the first ever CV application on what was essentially a car with a different body bolted on to its chassis. At about the same time, many individuals also turned their hand to D-I-Y means to make their jalopies do more. This resulted in a type of vehicle the Yanks have kept a raging love affair with to this day: the pick-up with the rear seats removed and a flat bed approach forming the cargo area. All of a sudden you were looking at things which were beyond the purview of the transport denizens.

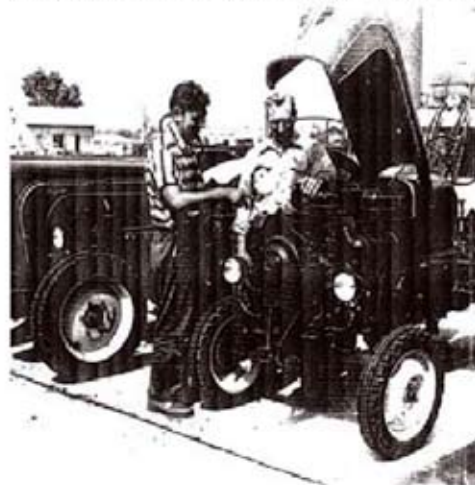
Utilities or services normally provided by the City (municipalities to us Indians) saw the next prong of action with the horseless carriage. The fire brigade went mechanised and this was a life saver in more ways than one. Ambulances followed in this very vein with again a specialised approach



Porsche tractors on the assembly line in the old Dornier aircraft works which Allgeier leased out in 1949.

which saw a further application change necessitating design and packaging. Vehicles for refuse collection, water tankers and road sweepers among many others began to appear on to the American roadscape.

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Two Porsche Diesel tractors seen here from this 1959 pic include the single-cylinder Junior (bonnet open) and the three-cylinder Super.



Professor Porsche seen here during an early demonstration of one of the first Allgeier-built tractors, circa 1950.

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Cover pic of a sales brochure for the earliest Allgeier "System Porsche" tractors which were of course air-cooled.