

*unstoppable*

## TRUE TITAN

This was a true behemoth and to top it off – a tireless workhorse. So much so, that it was hard to let go of it.



Edition 20 of a special CV series by

**APOLLO TYRES**



## APOLLO TYRES LTD. *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.

The Terex Titan 33-19 was a prototype off-road earth hauler built by the Terex Division of General Motors Corporation of Canada. The Titan is to date the world's largest tandem axle rear dumping hauler ever manufactured according to the Guinness Book of World Records. It was first shown to the public in Las Vegas at the American Mining Congress. Built in General Motors' London, Ontario, Canada plant, the 33-19 was the largest in the Terex 33 series of off-road haulers, others being the 33-03 to 33-15. The Titan is 260 tonnes in construction, with a maximum payload capacity of 350 tonnes, it weighs 610 tonnes. At the time of its construction, it was the largest



truck ever built, but the size record was broken by the Caterpillar 797B in 1998.

The Titan was powered by a 6-cylinder 3000/3300hp locomotive engine coupled to an EMD AR10-D14 generator. This Electro-Motive Division engine, as the 16-645E4 prime mover, was after cooled and turbocharged. The generator then powered 4 electric traction motors located at each rear wheel. The generator was powerful enough to supply power to 250 modern homes. Tyres on the truck are 11' in diameter, with each tyre weighing 4 tonnes. The Terex featured large 40,00x57 tyres made of rubber. The box is capable of holding 2 Greyhound buses and 2 pick up trucks. It is 66' long, 25'7" wide and 22'7" to the top of the canopy. The cab is 13' inch from the ground and with the box lifted, the truck is 56' high. It takes approximately 28 seconds to raise the box and 30 seconds to lower it. The front of the truck has full-time hydrostatic steering (max 28 degrees angle) while the rear tandem axles have a 5 degree steering angle when actuated at

a preset steering angle to the front wheels. The Titan's fuel tank holds 3,642 litres of fuel and 1,262 litres of oil.

Terex assembled the Titan for Kaiser Steel in its Eagle Mountain iron mine in late 1974. At this mine the Titan suffered from downtime problems but eventually hauled some three and a half million tonnes of earth until 1978.

In 1978, Kaiser Resources brought the truck to Sparwood from California to be used at its coal mine. The Titan arrived by train on 8 rail flat cars. The truck was reassembled by the side of Highway 3 and then driven to the mine site. In 1980, the mine changed hands as B.C. Resources acquired all of the Kaiser property, and was renamed B.C. Coal. In 1983 the mine was again renamed, to Westar Mining, and the Titan also changed colors from lime green to Westar's blue and yellow.



Shortly after, Westar directly purchased the Titan from General Motors, for US\$200 thousand and \$1 million in spare parts. In the following six years, the Titan had an uptime rate of over 70 percent as it hauled loads of over 360 tonnes during this time. Westar finally retired the Titan in 1991.

Teck Corporation bought the Sparwood mine in late 1992 and offered it for preservation as a public monument in 1993. The Sparwood Chamber of Commerce subsequently established a fundraising effort for the restoration of the Titan. It currently sits on Highway 3 in Sparwood as a public display and Sparwood promotes it as a tourist attraction. The engine has since been removed.

### IN PERSPECTIVE

Wabco also built the 3200/3200B during the 1970s, another 3-axle hauler, which was smaller than the Titan but similar-looking.

The modern Liebherr T 282B truck has slightly smaller dimensions and smaller empty weight, but larger load capacity and a more powerful engine. Unlike the Titan, it is a commercially available model, rather than a prototype.

In 1990 the Titan was retired, it being no longer cost efficient to operate. Elkview Coal Corporation donated the Titan to the Sparwood Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber with financial assistance from the District of Sparwood, Provincial Government and private donations refurbished the truck to display standard.