

crossed, or if you have to drive along a dusty road, such as the one across the middle of Australia, a snorkel will be invaluable.

In water, it allows the engine to keep on breathing and in dust it picks up cooler, cleaner air from above roof level. It's true what they say about cleaner air up there in the atmosphere.

Ask Aaron Sandilands.

Also, the TJM Airtec snorkel's design is such that it separates moisture from the air entering the engine, so you don't need to have a blue fit while driving through a thunderstorm, thinking the floodgates are about to open into your motor's colon.

Snorkels have come a long way since 3000BC, when ancient divers – although some of them were probably quite young - used hollow reeds to let them to breathe while under water. Fact. They were Greek sponge farmers and they did a decent job too, as you can see from movies like Spartacus, where all the soldiers were spotlessly clean, thanks to having washed with sponges supplied by the original snorkeling lads in Crete.



Then along came technology and in 900BC Assyrian divers used animal skins filled with air so they could increase the length of their dives. Nowadays vehicle snorkels play a big part in keeping dust out of air filters, which translates to better engine efficiency and a longer life. And the Airtecs are individually designed for various vehicles – no two the same – so apart from staying cool and fresh, your machine will also look pretty spiffy. Get one as soon as you finish paying off the B&O audio system.

Light up my Drawers

It was in late 1957 that Sputnik came over our house, a quite bright little light in the sky, and it came by every night.

It was the world's first satellite, fired up by the Russians, and we named our then newly-acquired dachshund after it. Since then, the space industry has grown exponentially, and the biggest space story of the day is that of MSA's 4x4 Explorer aluminium drawer system. Not only does it have more storage

space, but it also boasts patent pending Pro-Glide technology for super-smooth and rattle-free operation – and each pair of drawers can handle up to 250kg. As well, the entire drawer pulls out, so you can reach whatever you want anywhere in the spacious – and fully illuminated drawer. Yessir, the LEDs come on and whatever's in the drawer is in the spotlight. There's more: Another patent pending feature is

MSA 4x4's Open-stay Block, which lets you open the drawer even when you're climbing the north slope of Mt Everest, and when it's closed, the security handle lock system makes it



as secure as Donald Trump's safe. It cannot be levered open. The drawer system is modular, so it can be coupled side-by-side or stacked on top of each other to suit a multitude of possible applications. There's a range of optional extras and the system is compatible with MSA 4x4's drop slides, fridge slides and fridge barriers. Plus it's ADR-compliant, crash tested and certified with child restraint and cargo barrier anchors available and it comes with a lifetime guarantee. So it must weigh a tonne, you reckon? Nay, forsooth, it's the lightest and strongest on the planet. Way ahead of its time. Just as Sputnik was. The hound was lovely too.

Tough Tradesman

TRADIES generally just want a strong, long-lasting bullbar without all the fruit that often comes as part and parcel of an aftermarket bar. So TJM has come up with one called the Tradesman.

It's a thick steel tubing number without the extra channel folds and built-in fog lights of bars built for outback touring and it comes at a wallet-pleasing price. The outer tubing is of 63mm diameter and the beefy one in the centre is 76mm, all powder coated, so the bar looks the business. But more than a pretty face, it's also designed to give the HiLux a better approach angle, because you never know what challenges await you on the building site, and if you do bog it, the bar has recovery points rated

at 8000kg. It can accommodate driving lights, aerials, a winch and it's airbag compatible and ADR compliant.

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