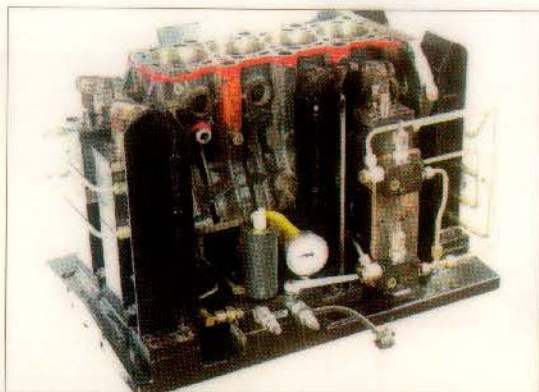


# Forms and Gears bags new Mahindra order

The Chennai-based Forms and Gears, a fixture manufacturing company, has bagged a repeat order from Mahindra & Mahindra for designing and manufacturing hydraulic fixtures for the new-generation Scorpio Sports Utility Vehicle.

This precision workholding device on which the Scorpio engine blocks would be machined is critical for the entire engine to perform flawlessly.

According to Reji Verghese, managing director, "the company has over 35 years of experience and expertise in the field and is Asia's leading fixture builder. Some of the biggest projects in India have rolled out on fixtures produced at Forms and Gears. From Hyundai's Santro, Accent and Sonata to Ford's Endeavour and Fusion, Tata Motors' Indica, Maruti's Alto, Mahindra's Scorpio, Cummins, John Deere, Caterpillar, and



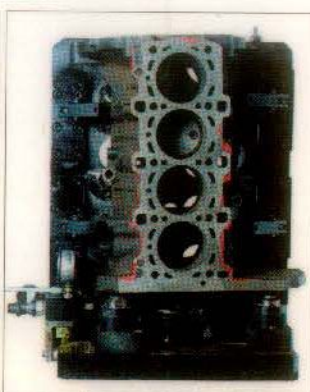
**Mahindra Scorpio engine block.** Forms and Gears has just received yet another order for fixtures.

Toyota, some of the biggest names worldwide have profitably partnered with Forms and Gears."

He added that "after scouring tool rooms all over Asia and Europe, the Indica engine project for fixtures was awarded to Forms and Gears by Tata Motors in 1997. To date these fixtures are in operation, churning out Indica engines day in and day out for over 10

years now."

The company has a wide-based clientele for its fixtures, especially for precision engine components. These include Toyota, Hyundai, Ford, Cummins, John Deere, Maruti Suzuki, and Mahindra & Mahindra. Its machine tool clients include Mazak India and Japan, Makino Asia, Toyoda, NTC-Japan, LMW and BFW.



## TVS Srichakra bags National Energy Conservation award

TVS Srichakra Ltd has bagged the prestigious National Energy Conservation Awards - 2007 in the tyre manufacturing sector for the Large/Medium scale Industry category. TV Mohan, president, received the award from the President, Pratibha Patil at a function organised in Delhi recently by the Ministry of Power.

The awards recognise select industrial units which have made systematic attempts for efficient utilisation and conservation of energy during 2006-2007. This is the third successive year that TVS Srichakra has been awarded the first prize, having won it before in 2005 and 2006.

"We are proud to receive this esteemed award for three successive years in recognition of our consistent and continual improvement in the area of power, fuel and resource utilisation. In three years, while demonstrating an ecologically sound conscience, with this award, TVS Srichakra has made it to the top of the list of energy-efficient companies of the country," Mohan said.

Spread over 2.5 lakh square metres, TVS Srichakra's manufacturing unit at Madurai employs over 2,000 people. Accredited in 1996 with ISO 9001 certification, it has since been certified with ISO 14001, ISO 9001-2000 and TS 16949.

The company has other practices like Six Sigma and Lean Manufacturing Techniques in place to abide by their high quality standards.

### FACTFILE

Set up over 30 years ago by R T Varghese, a mechanical engineer from IIT Kharagpur, Forms and Gears is synonymous with quality precision fixtures used by leading automobile manufacturers. It offers a complete solution from design and manufacture to cutting trials and run-offs.

# Ennore Foundries in growth mode

By C Shyam Sundar

Ennore Foundries has recorded 12 percent growth in turnover for the April-December 2007 period at Rs 321.51 crore compared to Rs 286.02 crore in the same period in 2006. The profit before tax was up 8 percent at Rs 15.51 crore as against Rs 14.35 crore in 2006. Profit after tax grew four percent to Rs 9.90 crore (Rs 9.51 crore) in the nine months.

V Mahadevan, MD, said: "Depreciation, interest and other fixed costs attributable to the greenfield foundry impacted the current quarter's profitability."

Speaking on the status of the greenfield foundry



at Sriperumbudur near Chennai, he said that production has stabilised during January 2008 and the benefits of higher production will soon accrue.

The pattern and tool shop and the design centre at Sriperumbudur, equipped with latest CAD/CAM machines and related software has become

operational. These facilities will enable the company reduce the lead time for new product development considerably.

"We have received approval from shareholders for establishing a new facility at Hyderabad for 48,000 tonnes per year and a low pressure die casting line for aluminium at Sriperumbudur for 15,000 tonnes per year. These would involve a capital outlay of around Rs 350 crore. The company is pursuing the issue of GDRs for an amount not exceeding \$ 25 million as the first step for funding the expansion," said Mahadevan.