

PROPEL



Reflections on Rane Values, Culture & Leadership - A Director's perspective

THE WORLD OF RANE

RANE HOLDINGS LIMITED (RHL)

RANE BRAKE LINING LIMITED (RBL)

RANE ENGINE VALVE LIMITED (REVL)

RANE (MADRAS) LIMITED (RML)

- RANE DIECAST - A DIVISION OF RML

RANE NSK STEERING SYSTEMS LIMITED (RNSSL)

RANE TRW STEERING SYSTEMS LIMITED - OCCUPANT SAFETY DIVISION (RTSSL-OSD)

RANE TRW STEERING SYSTEMS LIMITED - STEERING GEAR DIVISION (RTSSL-SGD)

KAR MOBILES LIMITED (KML)

RANE HOLDINGS AMERICA INC. (RHAI)

JMA RANE MARKETING LIMITED (JMA RANE)

SASMOS HET TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED (SASMOS)

Send in your comments / suggestions to propel@rane.co.in

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Designed by Trazar Studios: +91 98842 79307 | www.trazarstudios.com Production: Ganesh Sharma & Sajal Kishore Printing by Galaxy Printers: +91 98410 34223 04 Accelerator

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Accelerator

The Deming Grand Prize 2013 recently conferred on Rane Brake Lining Ltd. (RBL) fully reflects the company's manufacturing excellence through Total Quality Management (TQM) practices. RBL has joined an elite group of 26 other companies worldwide and seven other companies from India that have previously won this most prestigious award in TQM. This is indeed an important milestone in Rane's march towards becoming a world-class company with strong technical know-how in asbestos-free brake linings, disc pads and clutch facings, ably supported by the JV partner Nisshinbo Brakes Inc., Japan. RBL also gets the distinction of being the first friction material company in the world to have won the award.



'braking' barriers with innovative approach





"Our management concentrated on technical, operational and HR excellence in order to achieve high productivity at global quality levels. We have state-of-the-art R&D facilities in all our plants, and to further show our commitment towards quality for our customers, we conducted monthly audits in all our plants." says Mr. PS Rao, President RBL.

RBL has been actively engaging in developing new friction materials to meet emerging OEM customer requirements related to quality and NVH (noise, vibration and harshness) and at the same time ensuring cost effectiveness. Focusing on cost-effective asbestos-free grades of material for brake linings and disc pads for passenger cars and CVs, RBL thrives to improving market share in both the OE and aftermarket segments. Apart from reduced cost, the asbestos-free nature of the material contributes to environment protection as well, a feature likely to extend to all of RBL's products in the near future.

"Our joint development with Nisshinbo, Japan is an important initiative for serving OEMs and also ensuring maximum localisation of raw materials. We are planning to be 100 percent asbestos-free within the next few years and have been conducting several technical discussions with our Tier I and OE customers", adds Mr. Rao.

RBL's efforts for the development of low-cost formulations is also continuing at a fast pace. In order to combat stiff competition, there is increased focus on developing alternative and green materials for improved performance and cost efficiency, in collaboration with global suppliers. RBL has registered a very strong presence in the domestic market with a share of 48 percent in OEs and 20 percent in the aftermarket. Around 60 percent of total sales comes from the passenger car segment, while nearly 25 percent is accounted for by the CV space. RBL has also started working on copper-free products with JV partners that may turn out to be making RBL the first manufacturer of such products to be made available to customers by 2015.





to supply high quality wiring harnesses





SASMOS a Rs. 49 crore high quality wiring harness manufacturer, has established a state-of-the-art 'Centre of Excellence' for ISRO's space grade harnesses. SASMOS was founded and promoted by H.G. Chandrashekar in Bengaluru in 2007. Rane Group took a 26% equity stake in SASMOS during 2011 so as to diversify into aerospace and defence industry.

The company has made its mark on the international aerospace and defence industry for high quality wiring harness manufacturing and system integration. It is the first Indian company to supply to leading international OEMs in Israel, UK, US and France. Its customers include Rafael, Israel Aerospace Industries, Honeywell, DRDO, HAL, BEL and L&T Defence Systems.

Dr. S.K. Shiva Kumar, Director, ISRO Satellite Centre, Bengaluru inaugurated the new facility.

H.G. Chandrashekar, Managing Director, SASMOS HET Technologies Ltd, handed over the first set of harnesses made in this new facility for ISRO's Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS -1E), and also released the company's new logo.

Intellectual Property Rights

Justice Prabha Sridevan

- Judge of the Madras High Court from March 2000 to August 2010
- Chairman, Intellectual Property Appellate Board, from May 2011 to August 2013
- Named as one of the 50 most important persons in the IP world in 2012 (the only Indian) by Managing Intellectual Property
- Named as one of the 50 persons who shape the future of Intellectual Property Law in 2013

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) is increasingly becoming an important tool to protect and further the interests of the organization. As we move towards knowledge based economy, protection of IPR becomes imperative for business growth, particularly in a highly competitive global market.

An interactive session with Justice Prabha Sridevan provided the senior leadership team with an insight of IPR law and the extent to which it protects inventions and designs. The compelling examples and case studies from her experience shed light on the nuances of IPR in today's context.



Digital Transformation – The Art of the Possible

K Ananth Krishnan

- Chief Technology Officer, Tata Consultancy Services
- Named in Computerworld's Premier 100 IT Leaders, 2007
- Named in Infoworld's Top 25 CTOs, 2007.
- Named Distinguished Alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, 2009

Although large traditional firms are truly different from digital entrants, many are beginning to transform their businesses successfully through digital technology. The use of technology to radically improve performance or reach of enterprises is becoming a hot topic for companies across the globe. Executives in all industries are using digital advances such as analytics, mobility, social media and smart embedded devices – and improving their use of traditional technologies such as ERP – to change customer relationships, internal

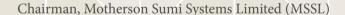
processes, and value propositions. Today business leaders, seeing how fast digital technology disrupt industries in the past decade, know they need to pay attention to changes in their industries now.

How can senior executives successfully lead digital transformation? While many experts urge companies to get started on the digital transformation journey, few tell how to do it. Addressing the senior leadership team, Mr. K Ananth Krishnan shared how traditional companies are managing and benefiting from digital transformation. Describing the elements of successful digital transformation, he shared perspectives on how to assess firm's digital maturity and build upon.



Cracking the code for Growth

Vivek Chaand Seghal



Mr. Vivek Chaand Sehgal honouring an interactive session with the Senior Management team inspired the house with powerful perspectives on approach towards business growth.

Mr. Sehgal has led the Motherson Sumi to where it is today - a USD 5 billion group, registering an impressive growth over the last two decades.

The session provided deep insights straight from the man who has been at the forefront of the most remarkable growth stories in the automotive component industry in India in the last decade.

His vast experience coupled with an accomplished ability to make business simple and his infectious energy has inspired the team to challenge the status quo and go bigger, better and faster.



Reflections on Rane Values, Culture & Leadership -ADirector's perspective

The word "stakeholders" is replacing "shareholders" in management literature which means the managements are accountable not only to the shareholders but other groups of people who have a stake in the wellbeing of business and the

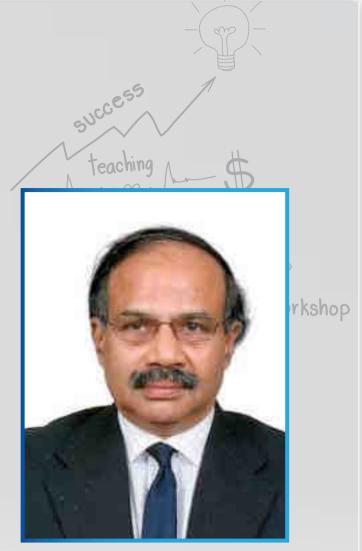


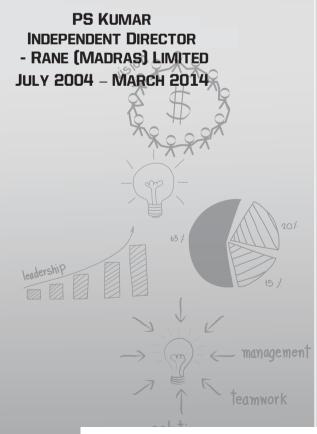
It is a matter of pleasure for me to have been asked to contribute an article for publication in the forthcoming issue of "Propel" the in-house magazine of the Rane Group. I have had and I continue to have a very cordial and fruitful relationship with the Group in different capacities. A very recent association and one which regrettably I had to discontinue due to circumstances beyond my control was my position as an independent director on the Board of Directors of Rane (Madras) Ltd. I had held this position for just under a decade and have been privileged to observe the working of the Group from close quarters.

While I had been given a great deal of latitude in choosing a topic, there cannot be a better topic than writing about the values, the culture and the leadership aspects present in the Group, more so from the perspective of the directorship I had held till recently and having had a ringside seat to the manner in which the Group is managed.

The decade that I had been a part of the Board of Directors of Rane (Madras) Ltd. was one of learning experience. There was a huge amount of knowledge, erudition, wisdom and sophistication. There was a great deal of attention paid to punctuality and being on time in whatever the Group did. As an example I would like to cite what struck me as remarkable is the practice of the dates of meetings being frozen a year ahead and which rarely if ever underwent subsequent changes. The collective knowledge of the Board of Directors was varied, at the level of expertise and extended into diverse fields. A great deal of attention was paid to ownership of actions executed and responsibility for those actions. Consequently, the various presentations that were made as part of the proceedings of the Board of Directors were detailed and enabled a culture of openness. As corporate governance goes, this is one of the most important aspects that a non-promoter and independent director attaches importance to. The decision-making process was a debate oriented one inviting views from all parties concerned before arriving at a consensus.

Before I talk of the Group and its organizational culture, a few words on the current ethos of business and management is in order. Compared to the closedness of the way businesses were run till about a decade and half or so, businesses are now more open and are expected to be run more transparently. The word "stakeholders" is replacing "shareholders" in management literature which means the managements are accountable not only to the shareholders but other groups of people who have a stake in the wellbeing of business and the sustainability of it.





Management studies have proved time and again that enterprise valuation is greatly enhanced by good corporate governance and transparency. The criteria for judging businesses is widening with different templates evolving. We now talk of Triple Bottom Line, Business Responsibility Reporting, Sustainability Reporting, Integrated Reporting etc. as the benchmark for social responsibilities and what good governance is. While these are in the nascent stages of development and in some cases recommendatory, they are beginning to find their way into the regulatory requirements. SEBI has by inserting Clause 55 into the Listing Agreement already made it mandatory for the top 100 companies (by market capitalization) to publish Business Responsibility Reports. Eventually, this will percolate down to other companies also. India is beginning to adopt the best practices the rest of the world is following and the financial statements of Indian companies will no doubt resemble those of developed countries in the matter of disclosures, best practices and walking that extra mile.

The Companies Act, 2013 has now upped the ante by introducing section 134 (5) which deals with the Directors' Responsibility Statement. Although this particular aspect is applicable to listed companies, the principle and the underlying objective can equally be adopted by any company which would like to be judged by a larger framework. According to this sub-section there is a responsibility cast upon the directors to ensure that in the case of a listed company, they had laid down internal financial controls to be followed by the company and that such internal financial controls are adequate and were operating effectively. For the purposes of this clause, the term "internal financial controls" is defined to mean the policies and procedures adopted by the company for ensuring the orderly and efficient conduct of its business, including adherence to company's policies, the safeguarding of its assets, the prevention and detection of frauds and errors, the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, and the timely preparation of reliable financial information;

While the requirements are clear, it is the benchmarks that are difficult to come by. One may refer to the PCAOB (formed as an instrument of Sarbanes Oxely Act, 2002) in USA which requires compliance with standards of internal control as prescribed by Auditing Standard 5. Many US corporations and Indian companies had for this purpose adopted as a template the framework established by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO). According to this framework there are three objectives which directly relate to five integrated components. 17 principles are enunciated in order to more clearly explain the framework's five components. These are reproduced in the ensuing part of the article.



It is my belief that the Rane Group would by any yardstick score very highly in all the aspects of values, business culture, leadership and the sustainability of business into the future that I have tried to capture below. While the Rane Group is committed to growth, it will be manageable growth without risking stressing the core. The Group has exceptional top management and the future looks bright. I wish the Rane Group the very best in its endeavors.

Control Environment

Assessment

Control Activities

Information & Communication

Monitoring Activities

- 1. The organization demonstrates a commitment to integrity and ethical values
- 2. The board of directors demonstrates independence from management and exercise oversight of the development and performance of internal control
- 3. Management establishes, with board oversight, structures, reporting lines and appropriate authorities and responsibilities in the pursuit of objectives
- 4. The organization demonstrates a commitment to attract, develop and retain competent individuals in alignment with objectives
- 5. The organization holds individuals accountable for their internal control responsibilities in the pursuit of objectives
- 6. The organization specifies objectives with sufficient clarity to enable the identification and assessment of risks relating to objectives
- 7. The organization identifies risks to the achievement of its objectives across the entity and analyses risks as a basis for determining how the risks should be managed
- 8. The organization considers the potential for fraud in assessing risks to the achievement of objectives
- 9. The organization identifies and assesses changes that could significantly impact the system of internal control
- 10. The organization selects and develops control activities that contribute to the mitigation of risks to the achievement of objectives to acceptable levels
- 11. The organization selects and develops general control activities over technology to support the achievement of objectives
- 12. The organization deploys control activities through policies that establish what is expected and procedures that put policies into action
- 13. The organization obtains or generates and uses relevant, quality information to support the functioning of internal control
- 14. The organization internally communicates information, including objectives and responsibilities for internal control, necessary to support the functioning of internal control
- 15. The organization communicates with external parties regarding matters affecting the functioning of internal control
- 16. The organization selects, develops and performs ongoing and/ or separate evaluations to ascertain whether the components of internal control are present and functioning
- 17. The organization evaluates and communicates internal control deficiencies in a timely manner to those parties responsible for taking corrective action, including senior management and the board of directors, as appropriate

Off the Track





In the year 1185, the Emperor of Japan was a seven-year-old boy named Antoku. He was the nominal leader of a clan of samurai called the Heike, who were engaged in a long and bloody war with another samurai clan, the Genji. Each asserted a superior ancestral claim to the imperial throne. Their decisive naval encounter, with the Emperor on board ship, occurred at Danno-ura in the Japanese Inland Sea on April 24, 1185. The Heike were outnumbered and outmaneuvered. Many were killed. The survivors, in massive numbers, threw themselves into the sea and drowned. The Lady Nii, grandmother of the Emperor, resolved that she and Antoku would not be captured by the enemy. She turned to the youthful sovereign, with tears streaming down her cheeks and comforted him, binding up his long hair in his dove-colored robe. Blinded with tears, the child sovereign put his beautiful, small hands together. He turned first to the East to say farewell to the god of Ise and then to the West to repeat the Nembutsu [a prayer to the Amida Buddha]. The Lady Nii took him tightly in her arms and with the words 'In the depths of the ocean is our capitol', sank with him at last beneath the waves. The entire Heike battle fleet was destroyed. Only forty-three women survived. These ladies-inwaiting of the imperial court were forced to sell flowers and other favours to the fishermen near the scene of the battle. The Heike almost vanished from history. But a ragtag group of the former ladies-in-waiting and their offspring by the fisher-folk established a festival to commemorate the battle. It takes place on the twentyfourth of April every year to this day. Fishermen who are the descendants of the Heike dress in hemp and black headgear and proceed to the Akama shrine which contains the mausoleum of the drowned Emperor. There they watch a play portraying the events that followed the Battle of Danno-ura.





OF THE RISING SUN



For centuries after, people imagined that they could discern ghostly samurai armies vainly striving to bail the sea, to cleanse it of blood and defeat and humiliation. The fishermen say the Heike samurai wander the bottoms of the Inland Sea still - in the form of crabs. There are crabs to be found here with curious markings on their backs, patterns and indentations that disturbingly resemble the face of a samurai. When caught, these crabs are not eaten, but are returned to the sea in commemoration of the doleful events at Danno-ura. This legend raises a lovely problem. How does it come about that the face of a warrior is incised on the carapace of a crab? The answer seems to be that humans made the face. The patterns on the crab's shell are inherited. But among crabs, as among people, there are many different hereditary lines. Suppose that, by chance, among the distant ancestors of this crab, one arose with a pattern that resembled, even slightly, a human face. Even before the battle of Danno-ura, fishermen may have been reluctant to eat such a crab. In throwing it back, they set in motion an evolutionary process: If you are a crab and your carapace is ordinary, the humans will eat you. Your line will leave fewer descendants. If your carapace looks a little like a face, they will throw you back. You will leave more descendants. Crabs had a substantial investment in the patterns on their carapaces. As the generations passed, of crabs and fishermen alike, the crabs with patterns that most resembled a samurai face survived preferentially until eventually there was produced not just a human face, not just a Japanese face, but the visage of a fierce and scowling samurai. All this has nothing to do with what the crabs want. Selection is imposed from the outside. The more you look like a samurai, the better are your chances of survival. Eventually, there come to be a great many samurai crabs. This process is called artificial selection. In the case of the Heike crab it was effected more or less unconsciously by the fishermen, and certainly without any serious contemplation by the crabs. But humans have deliberately selected which plants and animals shall live and which shall die for thousands of years. We are surrounded from babyhood by familiar farm and domestic animals, fruits and trees and vegetables. Where do they come from? Were they once free-living in the wild and then induced to adopt a less strenuous life on the farm?

No, the truth is quite different. They are, most of them, made by us! Extracted from Carl Sagan's 'Cosmos'



NIQR

Mr. L. Ganesh received National Institution for Quality and Reliability (NIQR) - Bajaj Auto Award for "Outstanding Quality Man-2014", during NIQR 14th National Convention held at Chennai, June 2014





Economic Times

Mr. Harish Lakshman features in the India's hottest Business Leaders under the age of Forty, The Economic Times - Corporate Dossier, May 2014.





RBL has been ranked as one of the top 'Best Workplaces' in India for the second year in a row by the Great Place to Work Institute. This year Rane Brake Lining Limited has been ranked 3rd in the auto component industry, June 2014





RTSSL

RTSSL received the Renault Nissan Award for Component Exports – 2014, June 2014







KML

KML two teams won Gold prize in Kaizen competition and one team won Gold prize in QCC competition during QCFI convention held at Mysore, May 2014



RNSSL

RNSSL received Outstanding Performance Award in New Product Development for the year 2013-14 from Volvo Eicher during their Commercial Vehicles Supplier Meet held at Indore, February 2014





RML

RML Mysore won 2nd Prize in ACMA SMED Competition held at Bangalore, February 2014



QCC award

Rane Royal Challengers QC team of RBL, Ambattur won Chairman's Excellence Award (Rolling Trophy) and Solution team of Rane TRW Steering Systems Limited (SGD), Guduvanchery came runner up, January 2014





Automates







RANE RUNNING IN DREAM RUNNERS 2014

Some want it to happen, some wish it would happen others make it happen

– Michael Jordon



















Ever since the interest in running came alive in Rane group with the participation in Wipro Chennai Marathon in 2012, a few of us took to running seriously. My colleagues at Rane have reasonable knowledge of the perils of uncontrolled sugar levels or high blood pressure or obesity. The universal struggle to break the lethargy and get into a healthier life style afflicted them as much. The plain simplicity of running as an exercise appealed to most of us. Adding to this was the exploits of Mr. Harish Lakshman, who successfully participated in Berlin Marathon. International Such stories inspired a host of Raneiites and the interest grew across the companies of Rane and people of differing age groups. Dream runners Half Marathon [DRHM], as an opportunity to run gained significant popularity. We created a self-working group that practiced running during weekends.

Dream runners, a Chennai based group that took running as a hobby was started in 2008 and conducted an annual event of running. They also take a cause for each years running and in 2014 they dedicated the running to "Fight

against mental depression and prevention of suicides". The proceeds from the Event will go to Suicide Prevention Helpline - SNEHA who have been working in this field for the past 25 years. Not just plain running and running for a cause should have appealed to more Raneiites. To ensure active participation Rane decided to sponsor 100 entries for the DRHM 2014. As it turned out we finally ended up with 130 entries which speaks about the interest it created. There are some exciting stories of participation in this year's run from Rane. Regular walkers were encouraged and made to participate in this event with an avid interest. This gave the regular runners an immense satisfaction. Some from Rane ran with an aim of being podium finishers and it is a proud moment.

Their timing in finishing a Half Marathon was exemplary. Participation by the entire family of some is also a highlight. The participation was spread across from an operator to the Director of the Company and so running became a great leveler.

Hail the runners from Rane, who made it happen!





A Red Letter Day in the annals of Rane Polytechnic

The dream and desire of the Rane Group to significantly enhance the employability of rural youth through vocational skill building became a reality in the year 2011 when Rane Polytechnic Technical Campus (RPTC) was established at Sethurapatti village, Trichy as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

This historic event, the "First Annual Day" of RPTC celebrated the passing out of the first batch. The highlight of the program was the distribution of course completion certificate, merit scholarship to toppers and the letter of appointment offered to students through campus placement.

RPTC took this opportunity to honour all resource person including Rane managers who contributed to the development of students through Finishing School Program (FSP). FSP is a structured curriculum delivered over 248 hours in parallel to the Directorate Of Technical Education (DOTE) prescribed syllabus. The curriculum includes Language skills, Behavioural competencies, Value education and Systems & Safety. The philosophy behind this initiative is to enhance the employability of the students and moulding them as good citizens.

Mr. R Venkatanarayanan, President – Corporate Services, Rane Group presided over the function. Introducing the Chief Guest, he also gave a brief about how the institution evolved and progressed over the last few years. Thanking all the well-wishers of RPTC who contributed to the development of this institution, he persuaded the students to be the brand ambassadors of RPTC by living up to the reputation of Rane wherever life takes them.

Prof. V K Raman, Principal, RPTC presented the annual report highlighting the academic and other achievements of the institution. He also gave a short sketch of the growth of the institution over three years and the challenges encountered by the management and RPTC fraternity in the process of reaching the level where it stands today. In his address, he gratefully acknowledged the significant role played by Late. Mr. N Krishnamoorthy, Advisor – Rane Foundation in establishing this institution.

Mr. S Ilango, Vice President, HR and TQM Sundaram Clayton Ltd Chennai graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. His address to the budding engineers was to lead life with seven simple yet powerful principles of fitness. He urged the youth to build their character with values that will stand them in good stead during testing times.

Mr. K Sabapathy, Former Coordinator, SPCU recalled the times where RPTC was in a conceptual stage and how the promoters of Rane expressed their intent of setting up this institution in a rural area to help the underprivileged gain access to quality education. Delineating the significant milestones of RPTC, he also conveyed to the students



as to how special they are to be the first batch to pass out of this prestigious institution. Touching upon the Canada India Institutional Cooperation Project initiative through which RPTC delivers a range of programs that meet the specific needs of the industry and community at large, he concluded his remarks giving insights on the plethora of opportunities this country is about to create for the coming generations and how they need to shape themselves in order to benefit from it.

The parents realizing how RPTC served as a springboard in their children's career left proud witnessing their progenies achieving a significant feat. RPTC takes pride in making it happen and is confident that they will strive to continuously learn and grow.

Indeed, it is a Red Letter Day in the annals of RPTC.











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It was a moment of pride for us to see the distinctively positioned Rane logos crowning our humongous stall on our home turf – Auto Expo India! The grandest automotive event in the country celebrated by automobile enthusiasts and businesses from across the globe. It was a picture perfect sight for us and the combined effort from the group had materialized into something majestic and spectacular.

Let us go back to December 2013 when we had just started working for this mega event. We came up with an elegant stall design, giant logos, banners with details of our products and a plan to execute this project. But we knew that it was an uphill task to deliver the show. Fortunately at Rane, we have the experience to lead us through difficult tasks and hence we managed to run the event without breaking a sweat.

6th February 2014 – Mr. Hemant Sikka, Chief Purchase Officer (Automotive and Farm Sectors), Mahindra and Mr. Praful Patel, Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises inaugurated our stall and kick started the four-day auto feast. Right from day one, we had visitors from all over the world flock in for the expo and to our stall trying to understand our products and our group. Such was the positioning of the products inside the stall that all our group companies caught individual attention of the visitors. From business leaders to students, everyone experienced our portfolio with curiosity!

Rane teams from Chennai, Bengaluru and New Delhi deserve a special mention as it was only because of their tireless efforts that we executed such an event and hope to achieve something even better by going an extra mile the next time. The presence of the senior management at the stall boosted the confidence of the team. It was a treat to watch global automotive giants admire our products and we put our best foot forward in providing them an excellent experience. The expo has certainly positioned our group with strengthened brand equity and our endeavour will be to leverage this while expanding horizons!



Steering the TITANS!

We are thrilled to be the proud co-sponsors of Tata Motors - T1 Prima Truck Racing Championship 2014 held at Buddha International Formula 1 Circuit - A first of its kind event held in India.

Six teams comprising of top British truck racing drivers competed in this grand show. The trucks were tailor made for this event and we were excited to see these giants race on the track. The trucks revved and so did the hearts of people. It turned out to be a great day for Raneites to enjoy this historical event with their families.



"Tata Motors values Rane Group's continuous efforts to provide quality products and to improve Tata Motors vehicles' reliability & safety. Tata Motors appreciates Rane Group's support of Tata truck racing event"

- Ravi Pisharody, Executive Director, Commercial Vehicles, Tata Motors Limited



"Rane Group's business partnership with TATA Motors is more than 40 years old and we are delighted to sponsor Tata Motors' T1 PRIMA Truck Racing Championship"

- L. Ganesh, Chairman, Rane Group



FUEL FOR THOUGHT

The Sun accounts for about 99.86% of the total mass of the Solar System. The Earth's core is about as hot as the sun The beautiful symmetry of a total solar eclipse happens because —by pure chance— the sun is 400 times larger than the moon, but is also 400 times farther from Earth, making the two bodies appear the exact same size in the sky. Every second, the Sun sends to earth 10 times more neutrinos than the number of people on earth. 1.3 million Earths could fit inside the sun, an average-sized star. The American flags placed on the moon are now white due to radiation from the sun.

