



H2 SUT – Load it or Leave it

Pickup trucks are a typically American phenomenon. Their cargo beds, often almost as big as that of a full-sized truck, may work well for craftsmen and small-business owners but what good is a heavy-duty truck for the soccer mom cruising to the mall or ferrying the kids to school?

Well, you might argue that it'll come in handy for the occasional transport of the Harley or a jet ski. Have you ever actually tried that? Have you ever muscled a 700-pound bike onto a cargo bed that's more than three feet up in the air and better yet, have you then tried to unload it by backing it down a narrow ramp?

If you had, you'd know that in reality almost nobody needs a pickup just for fun. And the vehicle you'd need by far the least is the HUMMER H2 SUT, which truth be told doesn't even have a cargo bed worthy of the name.

SUT stands for "Sport Utility Truck," a designation that contains at least two terms that clash with its character. With a curb weight of roughly three metric tons, it is hardly sporty and its miniature cargo bed does not offer any real utility either.

But Americans love their pickups – even though the horrendous fuel prices of late have resulted in a marked drop in pickup sales in the second half of 2005. Still it was no wonder that General Motors thought it necessary to develop an H2 version with cargo bed.

"HUMMER Takes Manhattan" was the motto on April 10, 2001 when – who else – Arnold Schwarzenegger and then New York mayor and eternal law-and-order fan Rudy Giuliani cruised Times Square in a sunset-orange metallic H2 SUT concept car.

Two black HUMMER H1 escorts provided protection against any would-be attackers hiding in the sun – a production worthy of Hollywood!

Admittedly, the macho presentation was somewhat reminiscent of Bruce Willis' army unit occupying Manhattan in the controversial movie 'The Siege,' but on this sunny spring day nobody had any foreboding of the fateful events to come on September 11...

