Tat selects most innovative tools

he TaT team scoured the Expo to find the most interesting and innovative pieces of equipment that they considered would be the most helpful in a busy automotive workshop.

The winning tool was an electronic tester from PLUSQUIP and runner-up was a set of wrenches from GearWrench. These two tools were chosen from seven finalists.

PLUSQUIP: The gadget voted the best at Expo by the TaT team was PLUSQUIP's electronic EGR, throttle body and actuator tester. It's called the Power Pro Tester and it's capable of accurately driving both DC and pulsed width modulated components on today's complex vehicles from 0 to 100 per cent to accurately test their operation. This versatile test unit is capable of driving a variety of components to quickly check

the complete movement or any seizing during operation, and monitor the current draw during all operating cycles on its integrated digital AMP read out.

Photo: Peter Psomadelis, NSW state manager and technical support for Premier Auto Trade (PAT) has been demonstrating technical equipment for the past 40 years or so and is regarded as an expert on testing technologies.







GearWrench: The wrench with a twist so impressed the TaT team that they awarded GearWrench the runner-up award for the best tool at Expo. It's called the XL X-Beam combination ratcheting wrench set. The 12 pieces range from 8 mm to 19 mm but what impressed the team members was the innovative half-twist in the shank which they claimed gave greater control over the wrench and less impact on their hand when struggling with tight nuts.

Photo: Inspecting the unique twisted wrench were (from left) TaT's Rod Maher, Apex Tool Group Victorian sales rep Lisa Cotton and TaT's Anthony Tydd.

Here are the other finalists:

Autologic Diagnostics: Established in 1999 Autologic is a full-featured aftermarket diagnostics device. It gives independent garages diagnostic software capability that is easy to use and mirrors many of the key capabilities of OE equipment.

When coupled with software support for most leading car brands, the advanced capabilities of the Autologic device helps independent garages fix faults faster without having to refer vehicles to dealers. The main benefits are that workshops will be able to carry out full diagnostics on all vehicle systems, and coding and programming of ECUs on site, enabling more complex faults to be rectified.

Photo: TaT director Deyan Barrie (left) and TaT team member Rod Maher (right) getting a brief on the Autologic system from Matt Douglas, technical support engineer manager.





RYCO Filters: This is a new in-tank fuel filter removal tool. The RYCO-designed tool takes the challenge out of achieving exactly the right pressure and placement when fitting any type of Toyota in-tank fuel filter.

It's easy to use, avoids unnecessary costs and damage and with the master tool are four attachments to suit Toyota models.

Photo: TaT team members Jason Smith (left) and Gil Sher (right) watch a demonstration by Guy Nicholls, general manager of sales, marketing and operations for Australia and New Zealand.