



Photographer: Randall Kilner, Dirtcomp Magazine

The 2018 Tatts Finke Desert Race marks the debut of Mick Magher Motorsports new Narva Racing TSCO Trophy Truck. Fresh from the USA, the TSCO truck piloted by Mick Magher and his long time navigator, Daniel Hose, will be the first of its breed to roost the Australian soil high when it launches from the Alice Springs start line on Saturday morning.

“Two years of hard work and a lifetime of planning has gone into this build and to say we are excited is an understatement” said Mick Magher

“Narva has lit the way for our racing team as it has evolved from winch challenge and 4wd competitions through to offroad racing as we have developed the need for speed, first in an Extreme 4wd GU Patrol and now in the state of the art Extreme 2wd Trophy Truck. Thanks to Narva the future is extremely bright and we can’t wait to get some quality seat time.”

Since their chance meeting in 2016, Mick Magher Motorsport has forged a strong alliance with TSCO since the build began, crewing for them at the Baja 1000 and Mint 400 while fine tuning their proven design to Australian rules and conditions.

Landing in Australia in April, after a comprehensive test and tune in California during March, the Narva TSCO Truck is ready to make it’s debut on the biggest off road racing stage in Australia. Under the carbon fibre and aluminium lies a TIG welded 4130 chrome moly chassis. Up front is a Dougan’s 6 Litre Chevy V8 matched to the new generation Albins ST-X 6 speed sequential transmission, which delivers the power to an ID Designs rear end. Fox 3.5” Bypass and 2.5” Coilover Shocks control the TSCO front upper and lower A-Arms, while the Fox 4.0” Bypass and 3.0 Coilover Shocks in the rear will manage the huge rear suspension travel as they hit the famous Finke whoops.

The teams long term partner, Narva continues to light the way with a bank of their Ultima 215

LED driving lights, while BFGoodrich Tires has stepped on board, equipping the truck with a set of Baja proven 40" BFGoodrich KR3's fitted to the 17" Method Wheels.

"While our trophy truck project has been in the pipeline we have done a number of reconnaissance missions to Finke to get the red dust pumping through our veins. After watching everyone else kick up the dirt the past few years, it is finally our turn to spin a wheel in anger and unleash our own truck on this iconic track." Said Mick

"There hasn't been a dull moment in the lead up to Finke. The crew gave the Narva Ultima 215 LED driving lights a good work out on chase trucks and transporter as they road tripped from Geelong up to Alice. Since arriving in town we've had a test and tune session earlier this week at the Alice Springs Off Road Track and the last few days have been filled with photo and video shoots. However it's now time to knuckle down and focus on the task at hand."

Joining the Aussie Crew on the trucks maiden race will be a strong American contingent, led by the TSCO Trophy Truck's designer, John Vance. After a reconnaissance mission in 2017, TSCO's Jason Duncan is also back, this time experiencing the race first hand when he navigates for Dakar star, Toby Price.

The Tatts Finke Desert Race formalities commence on Friday night with Scrutineering and a Show 'n' Shine at the Start /Finishline complex in Alice Springs, where the covers will be pulled off the Narva Racing TSCO Trophy Truck. Mick will then fire up the Dougans V8 in anger for the first time in Saturday mornings 8km prologue in front of a huge crowd. As the sun crests the horizon on Sunday morning it will be time for the Narva Racing TSCO Trophy Truck to get down to business in the red centre, with the first leg of the race, a 225km sprint to Finke commences. The team will spend the night under the stars before heading North back to Alice Springs over the famous Finke whoops on Monday morning.

Follow the team's progress at the Tatts Finke Desert Race via the Mick Magher Motorsport facebook page.

Mick Magher and Daniel Hose would like to thank Narva, BFGoodrich Tires, TSCO, Albins and Dirtcomp Magazine for their support in 2018.