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SPORTS BRIEFING | SAILING

TATA MOTORS AND LASERPERFORMANCE MERGE

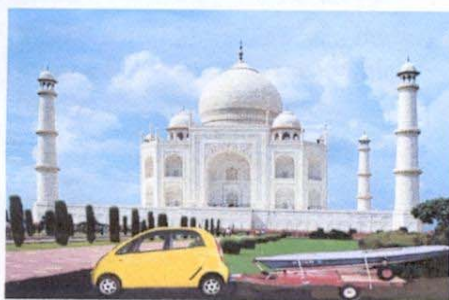
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, London
Published: April 1, 2009

Ratan Tata, CEO of Tata Industries and Devin Kelly, CEO of LaserPerformance, Ltd., announced today in a meeting in Mumbai, India that they are merging their companies. To showcase the abilities of their new micro-car and to raise the green profile of sailing, the two companies joined together to create Tata-LaserPerformance Industries.



ILCA Pressphoto Agency
Tata and Kelly presenting the Nano for India, Geneva Car Exhibition, 25th March 2009

Tata Industries makes the Nano, a tiny commuter car that will be marketed next year in Europe, beginning with its European introduction at the Geneva Car Exhibition 2010. It features a groundbreaking 33 horsepower eco-pollution electric motor. The Laser will have a new feature, a high efficiency solar panel on the foredeck that will help the boat to plane upwind. Both the Nano and the Laser will be produced in India.



ILCA Pressphoto Agency

Nano and Laser Dinghy for less than 9.000 €

LaserPerformance makes various small sailboats, the best known of which is the Laser, an Olympic class single-handed dinghy with a moveable keel, or centerboard. LaserPerformance, Ltd. is a recent merger of Performance Sailcraft Europe Ltd. of the UK and Vanguard of the USA.

"It's just a win-win situation," said Mr. Tata. "The Nano is an ecologically safe little powerhouse made for the people, just as the Laser sailboat is." Tata and Kelly will pair the Nano with a Laser Standard Classic version on a light road trailer. Car, boat, and trailer will sell together for 8,500 Euro shortly after its European introduction on 1 April, 2010. Nano shows that it is small but mighty; Laser profits from the mass sales of the car. Both Nano and Laser will spread to the smallest corners of the globe, and in the process, make the world a greener place.

PUSHING THE LIMIT

Climber Still Seeks Larger Meaning in His Epic Escape

By MICHAEL BRICK

Aron Ralston calls it, "my accident." But when he cut his own hand off six years ago to free himself from an 800-pound boulder, it was the beginning of a new self discovery.

Video: Aron Ralston's Survival Story

Series Page: Pushing the Limit



SPORTS OF THE TIMES

Calipari a Good Fit to Coach Kentucky

By HARVEY ARATON

John Calipari's up-tempo style of play is appealing at a time when our dribbling adolescents are more than ever in the clutches of the undisciplined (to put it diplomatically) A.A.U. culture.

Reports Say Calipari Is Headed to Kentucky

Columnist Page



SEATTLE JOURNAL

New Soccer Team Stokes Seattle's Passion

By WILLIAM YARDLEY

Seattle's passion for its new pro soccer team, the Sounders, reflects the region's passion for the game and its conviction that it is not quite like the rest of America.



LEADING OFF

Pride and Parity in College Basketball

By LYNN ZINSER

Parity is being announced through trumpets at the women's N.C.A.A. tournament with no Tennessee in the final eight and no Southeastern Conference team at all.



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