

NEWS - Toyota HiLux Safety upgrades



Toyota has been forced by increasing competitor inroads to add safety upgrades to selected SR5 and SR models. More good news is that the high price Toyota demands for its SR5 Double Cab hasn't been increased.

The 4WD Double Cab turbo-diesel SR5 upgrade adds vehicle stability control and traction control as standard equipment. As a by-product, the ABS system scores emergency brake assist and electronic brake-force distribution.

Toyota has also joined the real world by replacing the outdated 15-inch wheel package with proper 17-inch aluminium.

RRPs remain at \$53,690 for the manual and \$55,690 for the auto. Six airbags and air-conditioning are standard.

The HiLux SR's \$800ABS brake option pack now includes curtain-shield airbags and new bucket seats for the driver and front passenger, fitted with side airbags. On other 4WD HiLux models where customers can choose to add anti-skid brakes, the option price has been halved to \$400.

While the electronic safety equipment upgrades make the HiLux somewhat better value for money than previously, the marque still has some way to go. For example, the Mitsubishi Triton can be had with selectable full-time 4WD and a rear differential lock as well as stability and traction control.