

ONE PRODUCT BECOMING INCREASINGLY POPULAR IN THE CARAVAN MARKET IS THE ROOFTOP TENT



Stay high and dry in a rooftop tent

they were perturbed by the cost and lack of choice in accessories. Instead of putting up with the lack of options and huge price tags, they decided to do something about it and began building their own products out of a tiny warehouse in western Sydney.

Their first product was one of the most common upgrades ever put on a vehicle, the roof rack. Frustrated by a competitor's rack on their LandCruiser, they decided to make it better and more practical. This included tie-down hooks for ockie straps, mesh flooring as standard (\$200 extra on some racks), spotlight mounts, and front and rear antenna mounts.

The steel roof racks have advanced a lot in five years, but are still one of Powerful 4x4's most popular acces-

sories. In keeping with the company's credo to make it affordable and yet strong enough to hold virtually anything, the rack is tested and rated to 500kg (even though most 4WD roofs are only rated by their manufacturers to 170kg). This has meant a procession of changes to mounting brackets to achieve the desired ratings.

These days, the company produces 20 different types of steel roof racks for various vehicles, some of which are customised to specific models and others that are generic and fit most vehicles with standard fitting points. This range is set to increase over the coming year, with plans to release versions for dual-cab utes. Powerful 4x4 is very popular in the caravanning market, as many vanners look to the

company to make their vehicles better suited for touring.

One product becoming increasingly popular in the caravan market is the rooftop tent. Many vanners are putting rooftop tents on their tow vehicles, so when they want to venture into an area they cannot take their van, they can leave their van and head off for a few days with only their 4WD and rooftop tent. This allows you to take advantage of all the free-camping options around the country.

Rooftop tents are great for two people, and they keep you comfortable and off the ground. Because they are on your roof, you don't need to waste precious cargo area inside your 4WD with bulky tents. They are reasonably easy to set up with one person and make the ideal home away from your van.



Roof rack with tent and awning



Dual spare wheel carriers – helpful if you get multiple punctures

