



SINCE 1894

MORE THAN A CENTURY OF INNOVATIONS

Since 1894, Renault Trucks and its founders Berliet and Renault have never stopped reinventing the truck. We look back over more than a century of innovations..

The first innovation was the truck. In 1900, Louis Renault introduced the 3HP capable of transporting 250 kg of goods; the Berliet M type introduced in 1910 increased the payload tenfold. The period between the two world wars was marked by innovations in terms of energy. In 1924, Berliet launched the first electric truck, followed in 1931 by the first diesel engine in its trucks.



THE FIRST HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE R&D CENTRE

After the Second World War, the Berliet GLR (1950) caused a sensation with its semi-advanced cab, which allowed for better load distribution. With more than 100,000 of these vehicles sold, it was voted truck of the century in 1994. A little later, Renault Saviem introduced the first three-seater cab made entirely from metal with the Tancarville in 1956, whilst Berliet introduced the world's largest truck, the T100, which in 1957 was sent to conquer the oil fields in the desert.

Marius Berliet used to say, "I want to be 20 years ahead of the rest." When his son Paul opened the first heavy goods vehicle research and development centre in 1962, he was conforming to the family tradition. Innovations that are still in use today came out of his workshops, such as the pneumatic suspension of the Stradair in 1965 and the advanced tilt cab in 1970.

stradair
berliet
suspension pneumatique



COMFORT AND ENERGY SAVINGS

The great innovation to follow the Berliet-Renault Saviem merger in 1978 was featured in the Renault AE Magnum in 1990 - front disk brakes, flat floor and a high cab separated from the mechanical components. More than ever before, the driver was placed at the heart of the truck.



Since then, the innovations have kept on coming. The Renault Premium in 1996 beat all of its competitors in terms of fuel consumption; in 2010, the 100% electric Renault Maxity and the Renault Premium Hybrys Tech contribute towards environmental protection. Ten years later, Renault Trucks launches a second generation of all-electric vehicles trucks, the Z.E. range, with zero emission on operation. The research and development centre is always ready to invent the truck of the future.

