

ATLAS 4 X 4 – MICHAEL DENNIG

MERCEDES BENZ U1300L

ALL-PURPOSE VEHICLES CAN BE PUT TO MANY TASKS, BUT NONE BETTER THAN GETTING AWAY FROM THE DAILY GRIND. THESE STURDY VEHICLES ARE PERFECT FOR ANY ADVENTURE, FROM A WEEKLONG TREK THROUGH THE DESERT TO A THREE-MONTH SOJOURN FROM ONE END OF EUROPE TO THE OTHER. ALL WITHOUT LEAVING THE COMFORT OF YOUR VEHICLE.

Unimog is an acronym derived from the German "UNIversal MOtor Gerät", or all-purpose machine. It's an apt name for this vehicle, which was taken over by Daimler Benz in the early 1950s, because this truck is capable of doing duty as a farm machine or being used to transport goods or any number of other tasks put to it. Given its high suspension, it is also ideally suited to all sorts of difficult terrain, including jungles, mountains, and deserts. Unimogs also happen to be the specialty vehicle of German company Atlas 4x4. The company started as an off-road touring group in 2011. Repeated requests from their customers for information about vehicles suitable for use off-road led them to expand their offering to include custom rebuilds, benefiting customers and the company alike. This



1987 U1300L model was prepared for off-road use by reducing the height by seven centimeters, adding an integrated water tank, battery box, and water heater, and installing two roof hatches for additional lighting. Interior improvements include an electric folding bed with a Fanello bedding system, a stainless-steel stove with three burners, an adjustable table, and a covered sink. There is also an electronically controlled water pump, a 165-liter stainless-steel water tank, and a hot-water heater. This 1980s-era Unimog, which was once used by the German military "Bundeswehr," is now ready to report for off-road duty.





Manufacturer: Mercedes Benz
Model: U1300L
Year of production/rebuild: 1987/2011
Preowner/Usage: German military (Bundeswehr)
Seats/Beds: Two seats in the front, five to seven seat in the cabin, one bed (140cm x 200cm)
Condition: Converted
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 6L turbodiesel, 240 hp at 2900 rpm; OM366A with intercooler
Amount of miles/km: 36,785/59,200
Countries visited:
 Iran, Morocco, Europe, Western Sahara

Favorite feature: Tire-pressure monitor system, loft bed
Rebuild—Bodywork modifications: Glass-reinforced plastic camping box; two yacht-roof windows; five Seitz S4 windows
Rebuild—Chassis modifications: ORAM damp; 365/80 R20 Michelin XZL, custom ATLAS 4x4 aluminum rims, 2x3 point bearing, integrated water tank, battery box, and warm-water boiler
Rebuild—Interior modifications: Kitchen with stainless steel stove, oven, and grill; retractable bed 140 cm x 200 cm; two compressor cooling boxes; hydraulic table; 165L fresh water-tank; Katadyn

water filter; LED interior lights; outdoor kitchen; ISRI driver's seats; CB radio; voltage converter 24V→12V/20A; dark glazing; Atlas 4x4 aluminum roof rack, rear camera; bottle cooler
Rebuild—other modifications or notes:
 17" LCD monitor; battery-management system; 170 solar panels; UMTS Hotspot WLAN; sound system; gas-warning system; humidity monitoring; waterproofed 100-mm LED headlights; air-pressure control center
Rebuild—workshop/company name: Atlas 4x4
Rebuild—approximate work hours:
 Eight month (chassis); six month (bodywork)