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**APR 2015**  
ISSUE #189

## Latest AMD/Baird dealer survey shows domestic US sales decline continuing

**T**HE results of the latest AMD/Baird quarterly Harley-Davidson authorized dealer survey shows a continuing issue for Harley in terms of domestic sales.

Their 2014 annual results released in January showed that by the final quarter of the year their domestic US sales of new models had gone into reverse, and that trend is showing up in the responses to the February AMD/Baird survey.

Indeed, the keyword there is "trend" - the dealers surveyed were reporting retail new unit sales down by between three and four percent for the first two months of the year.

Because of the strength of March, generally delivering at least 50 percent of first quarter sales, Robert W. Baird and Co. have maintained their full quarter US retail estimate of +2 percent (some 36,400 bikes), but it will have to have been a very good March in

order for that to have happened.

Dealers reported slight declines in PG&A and service income, as well as new bike retail, but positive used bike retail trends should "help dealers work through used bike inventory - and help protect used bike values", according to Baird.

While dealers are managing to sell all the Tourers, CVOs and Trikes they can get hold of, Sportsters,

**60% selling below MSRP**

Dynas, Softails, V-Rods and Street models are trending negative.

A lot of dealers referenced weather issues as being a factor in the first two months of the year, but the survey revealed considerable anecdotal evidence that Harley-Davidson could be facing product mix issues.

Baird asked dealers to rate the

impact of key factors on retail demand in the period, and while new products were rated positively all other demand factors contributed negatively to the retail environment.

Notably, dealers cited a "sequential deterioration in weather and indicated that this was by far the largest demand headwind quarter-to-date" with trade-in values, government action/inaction and local economy issues" also cited as negatives.

In terms of inventory and promotions, dealers indicated that new bike inventory is "balanced for this time of year" with 77 percent of dealers indicating that inventory is "about right".

Despite positive used bike retail trends on a volume-weighted basis, dealers consider used bike inventory to be too high - likely a result of more frequent trades associated with new bike retail sales.

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Ken's Factory opens in US



Rivera Primo gives HedLED P.O.P. to dealers



### PRODUCTS



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Brock's PERFORMANCE



Whiplash INDUSTRIES



Taking inspiration from the Diggers of the '70s, Paul Milbourn built Nut Cracker and with it placed 5th at the AMD World Championship of Custom Bike Building. Pages 55-56

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We first met Jeremy Cupp when he entered the AMD World Championship of Custom Bike Building and went on to place 2nd, twice. We are delighted to present a profile of his growing business



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In keeping with its mission to provide the market with the comprehensive independent vendor news service available AMD presents the second part of its V-Twin Expo exhibitor company and product news round-up

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**'Nut Cracker' by Paul Milbourn ..... 55-56**

Paul Milbourn initially didn't think his bike was good enough to enter the AMD World Championship. In fact it turned out to be good enough to place 5th in Freestyle

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Incorporating the return of AMD's Builder Book

# Harley share price trend means a Mark II Rushmore initiative is needed

**L**AST month I wrote about the top management hand-over at Harley-Davidson, with Keith Wandell retiring after five years as "company doctor", and Matt Levatich taking the helm.

I generally try and avoid returning to the same or similar subject in two consecutive editions, but two things have happened since I wrote last month's piece to make some of my remarks appear more relevant than even I could have anticipated.

The first concerns the findings of the latest AMD/Baird Harley-Davidson authorized dealer quarterly survey. Undertaken in January and February, one of the alarming outcomes was to find that the softening of Harley new model sales seen in the final quarter of 2014 does appear to have continued into this year.

At least up to the end of February, which was the timing of the survey, Baird themselves are quite rightly quick to point out that with 50 percent of first quarter new model sales always being in March, and with weather having been a big issue from mid-November through to at least mid-February, it may well be that Harley's next quarterly fiscals reveal a return to growth in the United States when they are released in April.

However, whatever the reason, and regardless of how this continues to play out, at a time when we are told that the domestic US economy is growing healthily, when overall on-highway motorcycle sales in the US are growing (if still slowly), and when Harley's primary cruiser and related sector rivals are also growing (not least Polaris), then it is clearly a situation that we must all eye with some apprehension.

Indeed, is it possible that some of Harley's missing sales are now sat in garages across America wearing an Indian logo? Could we already be seeing the first blood in renewed hostilities between two traditional American brands, whose historic rivalry did much to characterize the first 50 years of the motorcycle industry in America in the 20th century?

Polaris have had some supply issues, so maybe it is too soon to start talking about them taking sales from Milwaukee, but it is going to start happening at some stage, and if Project Rushmore was designed to have long term impacts, then surely winter 2014/15 is certainly too soon for it to be running out of legs?

The second factor, and one that I have been referencing several times in the past 6 months, is the performance of Harley-Davidson's share price. At the time of the reaction to Harley's full 2014 annual results, observers waited with baited breath to see how the share price would respond. To the extent that this is a viable and important litmus test for just how good those results were, then it is a test that Harley has not passed.

At the time of writing (end of March 2015), Harleys' share price has been hovering in the range of \$59 to \$61, with a three month low of \$58.80, and a high dating from before the 2014 fiscals were released of \$66.

Given the nature of investor sentiment and mindsets, the share price

performance since it neared \$74 at the end of April last year is not the kind of trend that sets Wall Street pulses racing.

OK, so the dividends remain strong, and thanks to Keith Wandell's "tough love", the fundamentals are a lot more righteous than they were. Nonetheless, while balance sheet strength is admirable, the return of an engineering based CEO to the top job at Harley-Davidson has probably already come a year or 18 months too late.

Given the nature of production lead times it is to be hoped that when this summer's MY2016 announcement is made, one of Keith Wandell's parting gifts will have been a strong offer that addresses moribund Softail and (above all) Dyna demand, and injects further new vigor into a Sportster offer that remains a triumph of paint over power.

I can remember some 15 years ago pointing to Harley's then modest Tourer sales as meaning that the FLs were their 'Cinderella'. We even published one of our Pro-Guide subject specific special editions in an attempt to bring

attention to the nascent aftermarket offerings for the Touring platform.

The rest is history, but having seen the entire industry lament the passing of the FXR platform ever since Harley dropped it in favor of the Dyna back in 1993, maybe the need to inject fresh excitement should see Harley bring back something that fills the FXR void - at the very least Dyna sales numbers make the existing platform look outdated.

If Harley think that the Street models are going to reinvent their entry level offer in the US, then while they maybe good "outreach" wheels, in the long run they will no more cut the mustard in terms of serious volumes than the V-Rods have done.

While Harley-Davidson engineers, along with those from other manufacturers and the aftermarket, have acknowledged that air cooled engines can still have a future in a landscape characterized by ever-tightening emissions controls, maybe the one big legacy and the biggest single long-term impact of Project Rushmore will have been that it successfully trialled liquid cooling up front and center stage in the mainstream Bar and Shield offering.

If an extension of liquid cooling is what it takes to rebuild Softail and Dyna (and Sportster) sales growth, then so be it, and if it turns out that MY2016 sees evidence of this thinking, then Wandell's legacy will after all have been broader based than simply fixing the fiscals.

Harley needs a new FXR



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# LC Fabrications expands premises after raffling 'Old Black'

LC FABRICATIONS was founded by Jeremy Cupp in 2006 on an empty table at the back of his family's machine shop. He worked there after hours driven by his passion for custom motorcycles. Today, LC Fabrications is an established custom shop and Jeremy has two top ten places in the AMD World Championship of Custom Bike Building to his name, yet despite this success he still works 40-hour weeks in the family machine shop, while the revenue from his custom builds is reinvested into LC Fabrications.

By 2007 Jeremy had made the move from the table at the back of the shop to a shed. After placing 6th in the 2009 AMD World Championship with TT Deluxe, Jeremy made the decision to

separate his business from the family business, and in 2010 he signed the lease on his first shop. He says of that move: "It was a pretty ragged building in our town that was being used as a karate studio/barber shop. I grabbed together enough wiring to get me up and running, bought a mill and lathe, and made the jump.

"The next two years were very difficult. The space was minimal, the structure in poor repair. I felt that I could not produce a good enough product with what I had to work with."

Jeremy looked at other options and discovered a larger building nearby on the market. After many hours of discussion with his local bank manager Jeremy had an agreement in place that would allow him to put an offer on the building. However, in order to secure



the loan to buy the premises, the bank needed a 25 percent deposit.

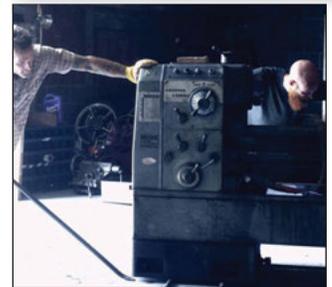
To fund the purchase, Jeremy decided to sell 'Old Black', the bike that finished 2nd in the Freestyle class at the 2012 AMD World Championship. "Jon Krouse of Monstercraftsman has been a dealer of mine for several years and we are good friends," says Jeremy, "I was telling him the story, knowing he has the ability to pull rabbits from a hat, when he came up with the most ridiculous idea I had ever heard of. He wanted to raffle the bike online, 300 tickets at \$100 each...that would never work, right?"

Jeremy might have dismissed the idea, but Krouse ran with it and built a website and set up merchant services. The tickets began to sell as word spread and the story broke on the Internet. Lowside, Biltwell, Lowbrow, Burlly and Monstercraftsman added additional merchandise to the raffle to help Jeremy out. The success of winoldblack.com was enough for Jeremy to secure the loan he needed and the real estate deal went through!

The property was originally built in 1947 as the Grottoes Theatre, it was then purchased by the local fire department, serving as a community center and gear storage area for 50 years.

When Jeremy got the keys there was much work to be done. He had to pour new cement floors, upgrade the wiring, heating and air, and get rid of 50 years of dirt and junk.

Talking about how LC Fabrications stands today, Jeremy says: "Currently the 'shop' area of the building is finished and I am back to work..."



coincidentally building a bike for the next AMD World Championship. Other areas are still under construction, or in their original state, but for now I am going to just work hard so I can pay for the repairs."

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<<< Continued from cover

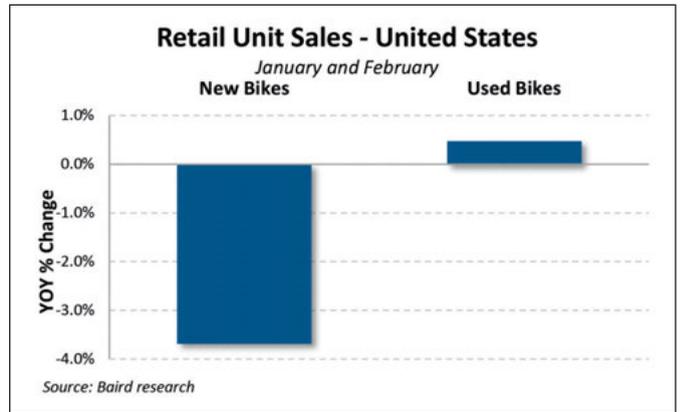
The dealer inventory position appears appropriate for the time of year, but commentary suggests that some dealerships' levels of non-current models remain an issue.

Baird say that based on Harley data and their own research assumptions, the average US dealers had 65 bikes at the end of the fourth quarter, up from 60 bikes at the end of the fourth quarter 2013.

Speaking to inventory levels and Harley-Davidson's promotional activity, one dealer said that "the 70% [Road Glide] order plan hurts our ability to remain nimble with respect to market trends.

Forecasting such a large percentage of our buying 90 days out doesn't provide any strategic advantage to my dealership." Another dealer said that "they are promoting the wrong things at the wrong time. I feel marketing is way off this year and I really do not appreciate a promo on an oil change that does not even cover my cost of goods. Too much on the LiveWire, not enough push on the Street when we finally got units. Core products in the catalogs that are on back order and cannot be [obtained] until the season is not acceptable – especially after these items were budgeted into our buying."

Another said their "used bike market was flat last year, so we

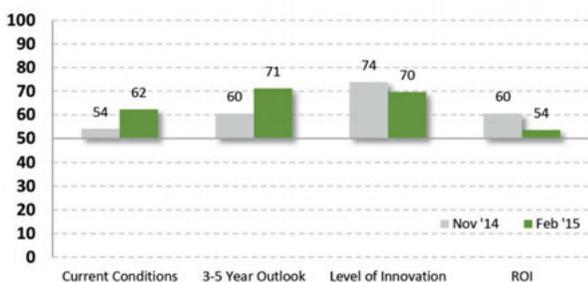


## Dealer Sentiment and Outlook

**With Baird's reported current dealer sentiment index trending down on current conditions but up on 3-5 year outlook, some of this quarter's dealer feedback on the subject is instructive ...**

- "We remain very satisfied as a Harley-Davidson dealer. Based on the Motor Company's continued product innovation we anticipate more growth for our business in the next 3-5 years."
- "We need exciting new product to generate sales ASAP."
- "They really need a Rushmore-like redo for the Dyna and Softail families."
- "Harley-Davidson continues to set new standards. Who wouldn't be excited about that?"
- "All business is harder in this day and age. There is more cost to doing business than most even dream of. In saying that, I do feel Harley has great products and your people can make you or break you with how they treat your customers. I hope that the Motor Company keeps this in mind as they introduce programs that require monthly costs."
- "The economy just needs to improve."
- "Very happy with the vision of the company and looking forward to the future."
- "We need the business to still rise above the slight downturn it seems to have taken again, but it's still a great business to be in."

**Baird Harley-Davidson Dealer Sentiment Index**



have a few more pre-owned than we desire, mostly due to the Rushmore bikes"; another dealer reported that they "still have several MY2014 units on the showroom floor. In past years, we usually haven't had more than a couple carry-over units."

Another dealer said that the "Motor Company is all-in on the Street and Outreach customers" but that the "bread is still buttered by Touring bikes."

"Inventory is high because sales are slow" said one dealer, with another reporting that "the .99 finance rate on 2014 helps" and another that "sales seemed to have dropped a bit earlier last season and we found ourselves sitting on a little too much used bike inventory, which forced us to floor-plan them, which hurts," but another commented that "Harley holding off on 2014 shipping of units helped move 2014 inventory."

One of the areas in which any softening of demand will turn up as a trend is in new bike pricing relative to MSRP. The bad news for Harley-Davidson is that 60 percent of dealers surveyed said that they are selling bikes below MSRP. Baird

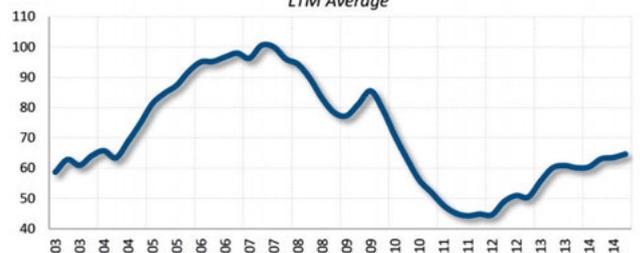
say that "while discounting has moderated from the elevated levels we saw during Q3 (when Harley used promotions to clear out non-current inventory), commentary suggests that dealers are still relying heavily on promotions to clear out non-current inventory."

In terms of credit availability and financing trends, the survey suggests that overall the consumer financing environment remains stable with 63 percent of dealers reporting that their credit environment remains unchanged, with 28 percent saying that it was less difficult.

Baird has established a Harley-Davidson Dealer Sentiment Index, capturing both current and longer-term (3-5 year) dealer sentiment. Additionally, they ask dealers to evaluate Harley based on the company's level of innovation and return on investment.

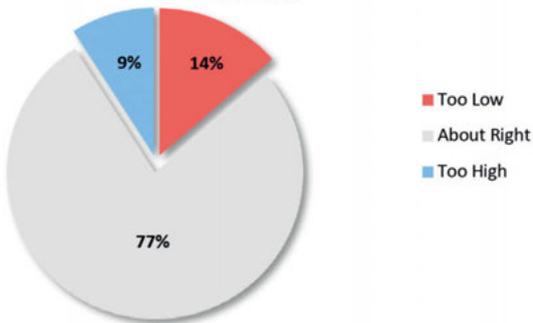
Both current dealer sentiment (62 vs. 78) and 3-5 year sentiment (71 vs. 80) declined on a year-over-year basis – likely attributable, in part, to the strong Rushmore launch last year. Last quarter, they began asking Harley dealers to rate their satisfaction with innovation (70)

**Bikes per Dealer - U.S. LTM Average**



**Inventory Comfort**

*New Bikes*



Source: Baird research

and return on investment (54). Broadly, Harley dealers remain satisfied with both metrics.

For context, sentiment readings can range from 0-100, with 50 providing a "neutral" outlook.

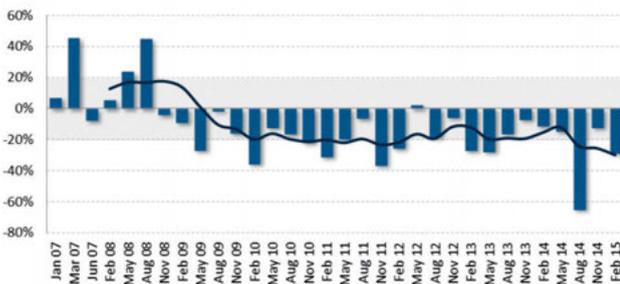
Given its timing, this quarterly survey was able to garner reaction to the announcement that CEO Keith Wandell is retiring and being replaced by Matt Levatich. The overall sentiment among dealers appears to be universally positive in terms of the job that Keith Wandell, as Harley's first outside CEO hire, has done in helping the company weather the economic downturn.

Equally, most approve the appointment of Matt Levatich, but are maybe divided on whether or not someone coming from a manufacturing rather than retail background is the right follow-up to Wandell's "tough love."

*Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. is an employee owned wealth management, capital markets, asset management and private equity firm that was founded in 1919 and is headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The company says that it currently has \$105 billion in client assets.*

**Pricing Trends**

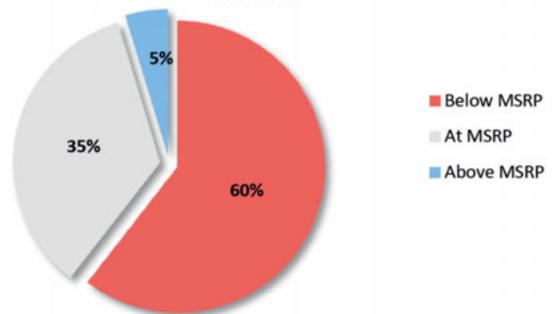
*% of respondents selling bikes at or above MSRP minus % selling below MSRP*



Source: Baird research

**New Bike Pricing**

*vs. MSRP*



Source: Baird research

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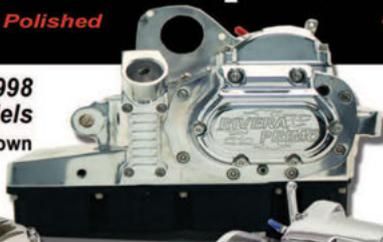
*Fits 1993 to 1998 touring models*

1214-0015/0018 Shown



LSD 1214-0003 Shown

*Fits 1986 to 1999 Softail® style models*



1214-0002 Shown

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1216-0001 LSD Shown

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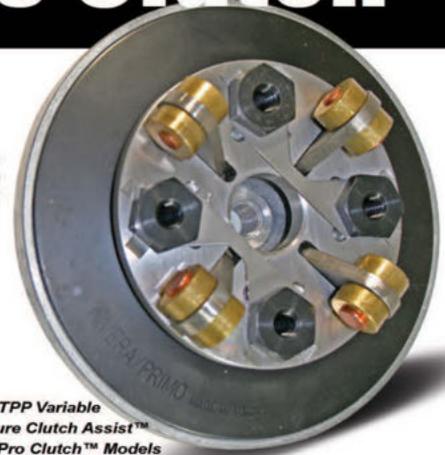


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# Ken's Factory opens in US

KEN Nagai, the President of Ken's Factory in Nagoya, Japan, has appointed Nelson Kanno to

head-up a new operation bringing the company's parts line to the USA under the banner of Ken's Factory USA.

"Ken is one of the few designer/builders who is still consistently getting six-figures for his brand of motorcycle elegance, and business is booming... so the desire is there," says Nelson. "Streamlining product distribution in the US offers many the approachable chance to apply a taste of this exotic styling in the very home of this now global art form."

As part of the new operation, the company has launched a website at [KensFactoryUSA.com](http://KensFactoryUSA.com), where dealers can register for a discount with the logon code: 24/7.

[kensfactoryusa.com](http://kensfactoryusa.com)



Nelson Kanno

# Gerald Rinehart retires, sells business to CEO

JUDD Hollifield, the CEO of Rinehart Racing, has purchased the business, with company founder Gerald Rinehart retiring.

"I've been in the exhaust business for over 30 years and it's time for a new chapter in my life," said Rinehart. "I was fortunate to bring Judd on as my partner in 2009 to help me redirect the company. Under Judd's leadership, Rinehart Racing will stay true to my core belief of providing the best performing exhaust money can buy."

"I'm committed to the legacy Gerald built, keeping our products made in the USA, providing superior customer service to our valued dealers and customers and providing premium exhaust products for Harley riders," said new owner and CEO Judd Hollifield.

[www.rineharttracing.com](http://www.rineharttracing.com)



Judd Hollifield CEO of Rinehart Racing has purchased the business from founder Gerald Rinehart, who is now retiring



# Screamin' Eagle crate motor launched for Touring models

HARLEY-Davidson's Genuine Motor Parts and Accessories range has been expanded with the introduction of a new Screamin' Eagle crate motor. The latest offering is the SE120ST, which has been developed as a bolt-in installation in H-D Touring frames with no required fabrication or engine mount relocation necessary. To get the 120ci capacity the motor has a 4.060in bore combined with 4-5/8in stroke SE Pro stroker flywheel and rod

assembly in factory machined engine cases. The Screamin' Eagle inner crankcase gets a full complement cam needle bearings with a high-performance crankcase output bearing and nitride bearing race. The forged pistons fitted to the engine are 10.5:1



high-compression, nickel-plated and with Teflon coated skirt and they are fitted with Titanium SST piston rings. Screamin' Eagle SE-259E high-lift cams are matched to high-performance lifters and Perfect Fit push rods. The MVA heads are CNC ported and fitted with automatic compression release. The intake on the motor is a Screamin' Eagle 58mm throttle

body, which at 18 percent larger than stock is said to allow the engine to produce 106hp and 117 lb-ft of torque at the rear wheel. Harley-Davidson is making the SE120ST crate motor available to fit 49-state 2015-later Touring models, and certification is pending for California 2015-later Touring models and all 50 states '10-'14 Touring models. The SE120ST is not compatible with Twin-Cooled models.

[www.harley-davidson.com](http://www.harley-davidson.com)

# J&P to keep Sturgis store open year-round

J&P CYCLES is opening a permanent retail center in Sturgis in June 2015, following many years of having a temporary store in the city each year for the annual rally.

"J&P Cycles has been part of the Sturgis Rally for over 30 years. With the tourist attractions, traffic and economic development taking place within Sturgis, opening this location year-around is a win-win not only for J&P Cycles, but the City of Sturgis as well,"

said J&P Cycles Vice President/General Manager Zach Parham.

The J&P Cycles store will be located at 1650 Lazelle Street and is currently undergoing a facelift to give it a fresh look prior to opening. Sturgis City Manager Daniel Ainslie said of the opening of the new store: "The City of Riders is pleased to welcome J&P Cycles into our community year-round. As the world leader of motorcycle aftermarket parts and accessories, it

will provide an exciting and valued service to local and traveling riders, alike."

[www.jpccycles.com](http://www.jpccycles.com)



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Facebook icon, Instagram icon

# Rivera Primo gives HedLED P.O.P. to dealers

RIVERA Primo is working to help its retailers increase their sales with the introduction of free point of purchase displays for its HedLED lights.

The company's Phase 2 and 3 sealed 7in and 5-3/4in LED headlamps with built-in marker lights are proving popular, and to make it easier for dealers to demonstrate the lights' benefits Rivera Primo has created a HedLED headlamp display. Made from 18-gauge steel, the display will sit on a countertop or on slatwall and comes completely wired with push buttons

and a plug-in power supply that works with 115-220 VAC, but does not include the headlamps.

To qualify for a free display, all dealerships need to do is purchase two Phase 2 and two Phase 3 headlamps from Rivera Primo.

[www.riveraprimo.com](http://www.riveraprimo.com)



Display for Phase 2 and 3 HedLED headlamps

## Logan and Newton from Renegade

RENEGADE has launched two new wheel designs as part of its 2015 product range; the Newton and the Logan.

The key feature of the Newton is the machined rim edge detail that is picked up on the outer face of the wheel's spokes. The second new design, the Newton, is described by Renegade as a "non-traditional five-spoke wheel with attitude".

A new finish option for 2015, that is being offered for the first time, is custom color Phantom Cut, where the wheel

is finished in a custom color before being machined again to expose bare aluminium, which is then polished.

Both of Renegade's new wheel designs are available in diameters from 16in to 30in, and finish options of chrome, Phantom-Cut, black powder coat and new custom color finishes.

The company also has matching rotors, sprockets, pulleys, derby covers and air cleaners in production.

[www.renegadewheels.com](http://www.renegadewheels.com)

## RENEGADE WHEELS

*Custom Motorcycle Wheels*



Newton



Logan



## MAG Connection adds Red Line oils to range



MAG Connection, the French v-twin parts specialist has added the Red Line product range to its line-up.

Based in Benicia, California, Red Line Synthetic Oil Corporation manufactures more than 100 products, including motor oils, gear oils, assembly lubes, fuel additives, and its popular 'Water Wetter' cooling additive. Red Line formulates fully-synthetic oils from ester base stocks, with chemically-advanced additive packages. Red Line say their oils provide extreme stability at high temperatures and superior film strength at lower viscosities.

[www.mag-connection.com](http://www.mag-connection.com)



## Lichter goes naked

MICHAEL Lichter has announced the theme of his annual Motorcycles as Art exhibition at the Buffalo Chip during the 2015 Sturgis Rally. This year the exhibition is titled 'The Naked Truth - 35 Customs / 35 Years / Motorcycles Exposed' and will see 35 bikes built by custom builders from around the world. However, each of the bikes in the exhibition will be left in its raw state - unpainted.

Hanging alongside the naked bikes will be more than one-hundred photographic prints chosen from Michael Lichter's archives, exposed as his subjects appeared, without retouching and enhancement.

"Unlike any other exhibition before, nothing will come between the viewer



and the bikes' most basic elements of shape, form and design," said Michael Lichter. "Each builder's passion and talent will be revealed through the fine details of craftsmanship evident in every aspect of their work. The builders are exposing themselves, as well as their work, in this show. Without the cloak of paint or graphics, the bikes' most basic form right down to its smallest details are naked and open to examination.

[www.buffalochip.com](http://www.buffalochip.com)



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**BILTWELL:** Mushman Footpegs

**CARL BROUHARD DESIGNS:** "Elite" Windshield Trim, Cross Derby  
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**COVINGTONS CUSTOMS:** Finned Saddlebag Hinge Covers,  
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**JOKER MACHINE:** Serrated Floorboards & Shift Pegs

**KLOCK WERKS:** 8.5" Tinted Flare® Windshield

**LEGEND SUSPENSION:** 12" REVO-A Rear Shocks

**MOTOR TRIKE:** 6 Degree Triple Tree Kit

**NESS BY MAGNAFLOW:** "Redline" True Dual Exhaust System

**PAUL YAFFE'S BAGGER NATION:** 23" Talon Front Fender,  
Speed Freak Fork Slider Covers, Fork Slider Adapter Kit,  
"Wedgy" Shift Linkage, Speed Freak Grips and Power Mirrors

**PERFORMANCE MACHINE:** Dixon Wheels & Front Rotors

**PIRELLI:** Night Dragon Tires

**THUNDER CYCLE DESIGNS:** Ball Milled Cam Cover

**TODD'S CYCLE:** 1¼" Bagger Ape Handlebars

**TRASK:** Chin Spoiler

**VANCE & HINES:** FP-3 Fuelpak

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS AND COMPLETE PARTS LIST: [dragspecialties.com/bike-builds](http://dragspecialties.com/bike-builds)

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**DISCLAIMER:** The California Air Resources Board ("CARB") does not permit the use of aftermarket emission-related part(s) that alter the performance of OEM emission-related devices unless CARB has issued an Executive Order, other than on racing vehicles on closed courses. Check your local laws and manufacturer's information.

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Polaris Chairman and CEO Scott Wine shared \$31.3 million with the taxman during the 2014 calendar year as a result of bonuses and exercising \$22.9 million in stock options.**

The Harley-Davidson museum will be sponsoring the Freestyle winner at its Labor Day weekend custom show to compete at the AIMExpo Championship of the Americas - with the opportunity to win participation at the 2016 AMD World Championship of Custom Bike Building at the next INTERMOT expo in Germany.

**Advanstar says that over 430,000 visitors attended their 2014/5 Progressive International Motorcycle Show Series. The company has confirmed the first seven dates and venues for the 2015/6 series:**  
**Long Beach CA, Nov 20-22**  
**New York City, Dec 11-13**  
**Miami, Jan 8-10**  
**Dallas, Jan 23-25**  
**Cleveland, Jan 29-31**  
**Minneapolis, Feb 5-7**  
**Chicago, Feb 12-14**

Hero MotoCorp, the giant Indian conglomerate that owns 49 percent of Erik Buell Racing, is set to open in Europe later this year and start selling motorcycles in Italy, Spain and France initially. Hero is the world's largest motorcycle manufacturer by PTW volume.

**European performance exhaust noise management system specialist Dr Jekill and Mr Hyde has announced a new electronically adjustable system for Harley's Night Rod. The system is legal in automatic mode and can also be used completely closed.**

Q-Tech Engineering, the Belgian trike and quad kit conversion manufacturer headed up by Sandy Poglavec, has inked a domestic US import and distribution deal with Martin Kline's Wide World PowerSports LLC set-up.

# Get SMART about battery power monitoring

If handled badly, motorcycle electronics can kill enjoyment of the riding experience; especially where poorly maintained batteries or insufficient battery power is concerned.

However, if handled well, the power of a well maintained battery to drive modern motorcycle and consumer electronics can massively enhance enjoyment of the riding experience.

TecMate's new 'smart' OptiMate Monitor with 4 LEDs driven by a micro-processor not only tells how well the battery is charged (or not!), it also tells if the vehicle's charging system is delivering sufficient charge voltage when the engine is running.

During vehicle storage the LED matching the battery's state of charge will blink every 5 seconds, drawing

very little power (0.2 milliamps) to do so, in fact 20-100 times less than the vehicle's circuitry is drawing from the battery at the same time.

When the vehicle's engine is running, the LED mode changes to an arrow, with the pointer reaching the LED matching the voltage being delivered by charging system. No arrow means it is not charging.

Two versions are available for all lead-acid batteries, including AGM: a weatherproof battery lead with M6 / 1/4" ringlets (O-124) or an in-line SAE to SAE version (O-125) that connects perfectly to any 2-pin SAE battery lead already fitted to the motorcycle.

The in-line (O-125) version also works perfectly with all OptiMate Cable adaptors such as the O-02 AUTO/BIKE plug, O-04 battery clip set



**TECMATE**  
**OptiMATE**

or O-19 low profile BIKE (DIN) plug.

The lithium battery version (O-127) has an LED warning if the battery is being overcharged and for good reason, overcharging means death to a lithium battery!

[www.optimate1.com](http://www.optimate1.com)



## Jeff Kessel

AMD is saddened to learn of the death of Jeff Kessel. Jeff was a licensed custom bike builder and the owner/operator of Independent Cycle East, Motowerx Cycle Shop and ICE

Armory - also a licensed manufacturing business. We here at AMD Magazine came to know Jeff as a competitor in the AMD World Championship of Custom Bike

Building - indeed, he won the Production Manufacturer World Championship class at Sturgis in 2009. Jeff was 55 years old. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.

Jeff Kessel, seen here on the right, with fellow builder Kenny Williams, who collaborated on 'Green Mile' with which they took the Production Manufacturer World Championship win in 2009



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## A-model Shortblock Remanufacturing

WELL known for their crankshaft remanufacturing, the Newton, Wisconsin based Darkhorse Crankworks division of Hoban Brothers has now introduced an A-model Shortblock Remanufacturing program. Following Harley's decision to close its own remanufacturing program last year, Darkhorse has designed a program for their dealers that "provides an economical method" of remanufacturing 2007 and later Harley engines.

Darkhorse's General Manager John

Dahmer told AMD that "we know most of our dealers currently provide cylinder boring or valve/headwork for their customers, and we don't want to compete with them, so designed this program to help make their dealership more profitable.

"A dealer can send us a complete lower end and we will manufacture it back to better than new specs at very attractive prices."

Darkhorse utilize their proprietary Pro-Plug system to "ensure that the crankshaft stays truer, longer than any



OEM replacement crankshaft, and we back that up with a two-year unlimited mileage warranty.

"Our skilled craftsmen verify all tolerances to meet or exceed all OEM specs on the entire crankshaft and crankcases, which provides the strongest foundation for all stock-type engine configurations."

For builds larger than the OEM 96" or more powerful performance engine configurations, Darkhorse offers upgrades including proprietary connecting rods, crankshaft balancing, DHC engineered Timken bearing upgrades and any other crankcase modifications on request.

Dahmer went on to say that they sonic-clean the crankcases and replace all bearings with OEM or other upgrade options. "It is the attention to detail that results in value and durability. For



**John Dahmer, General Manager, seen here left: "We verify all tolerances to meet or exceed all OEM specs. The service is designed to help our dealers make money, not to compete with them."**

example, main bearing races and connecting rods will be replaced if out of tolerance, and the crankshaft will be assembled and trued within .0015" at the main bearing races, using only genuine Harley-Davidson main bearings and OEM connecting rods."

[www.darkhorsecrankworks.com](http://www.darkhorsecrankworks.com)



## GEL Soft For Your Hands



Avon's new new GEL grip is a very ergonomic grip, featuring the softest rubber that Avon has used in a street bike grip. The soft rubber has a unique dimple texture and tacky feel that helps reduce unwanted road and engine vibrations, and reduces hand tingle. The new style grip is complimented by stylish, billet aluminum, triple chrome plated or black anodized end caps and collars. Available for all Harley fitment and most Metric Cruisers.



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17 - 19 April 2015, Oberwart  
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HAMBURG HARLEY DAYS  
26 - 28 June 2015, Hamburg  
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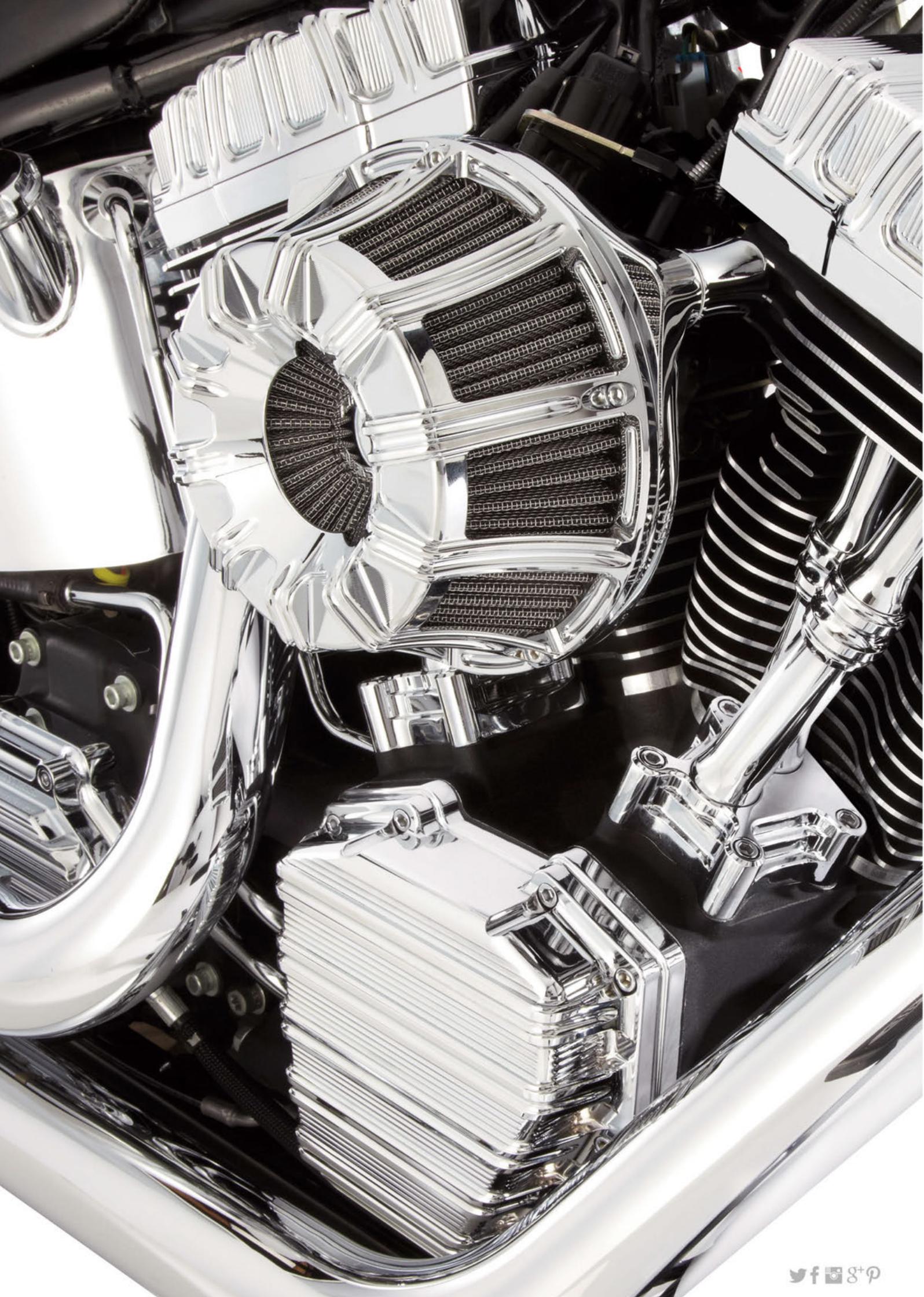
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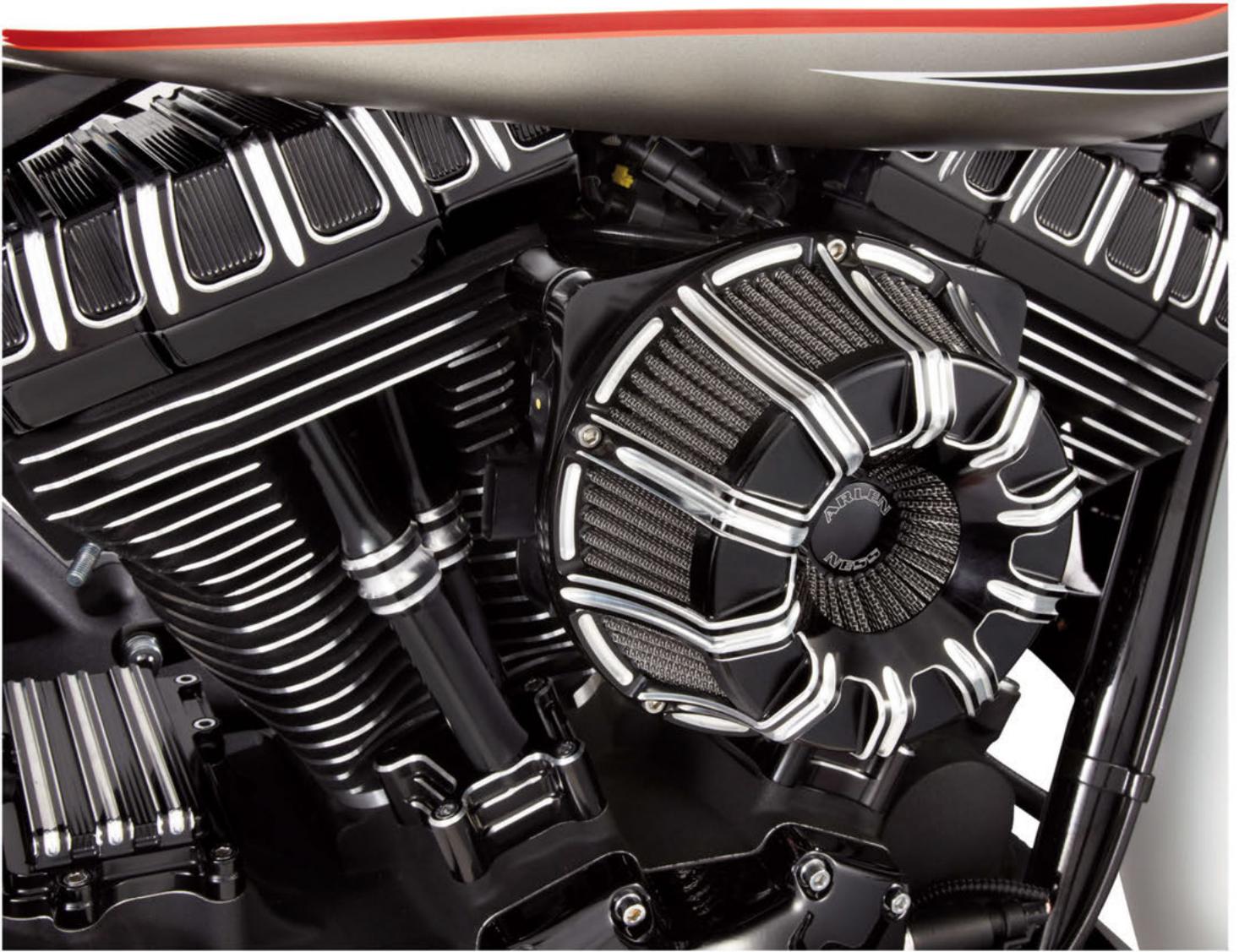


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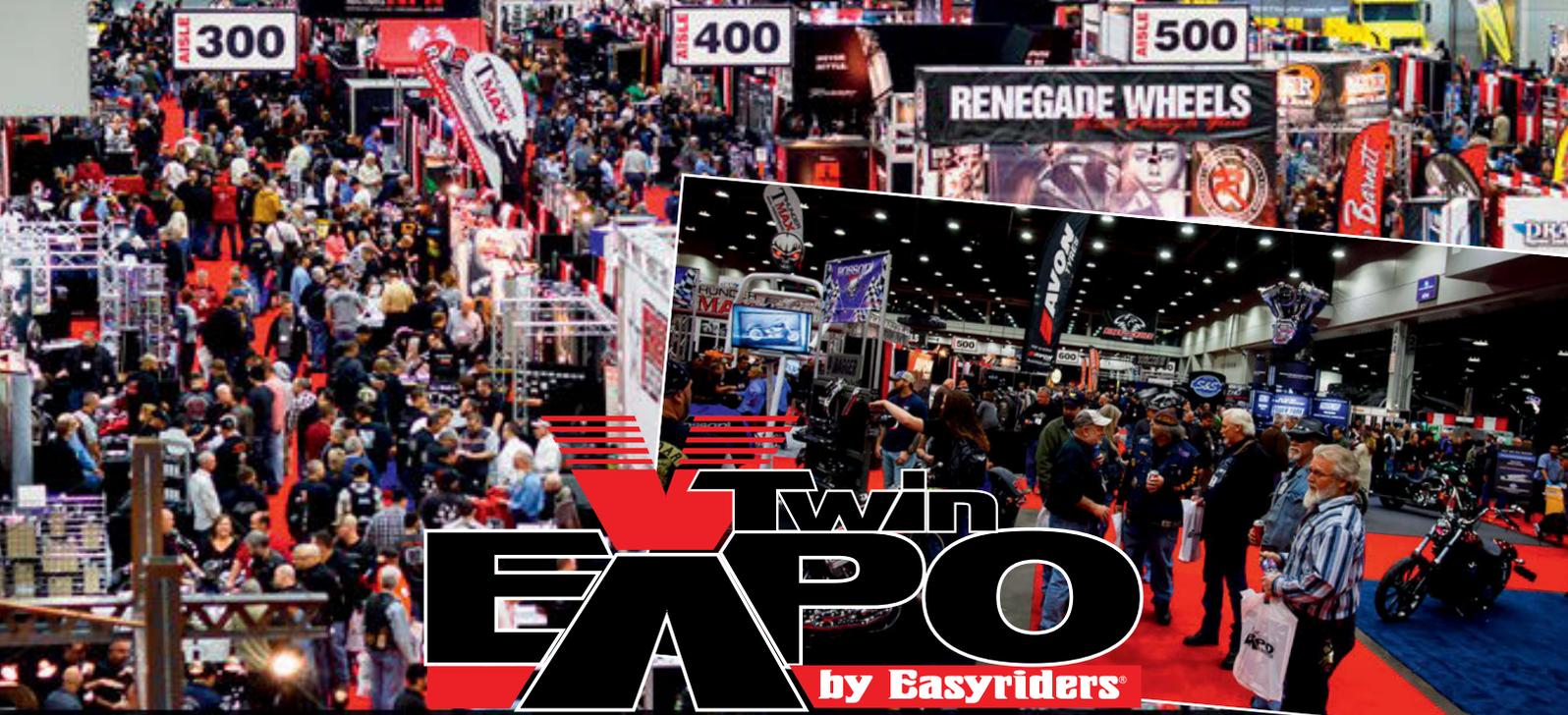


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# V-TWIN EXPO PART TWO

After many years stumbling along the bottom of what has proven to be a very broad U-curve, this year the 15th annual V-Twin Expo at Cincinnati reflected market improvements with a return to (modest) visitor growth, together with some returning and some new exhibitors. AMD presents a second selection of vendor company and product news reports from this year's show. Next year's 16th annual V-Twin Expo will be held on February 6-7.



**KHROME WERKS:** US made exhausts, mufflers, handlebars, saddlebag supports, sissy bars and pads, towing hitches, luggage racks and more; [www.khromewerks.com](http://www.khromewerks.com)



**YELVINGTON TRIKES:** The Largo, Florida based company describes their 2005 and up Sportster conversion assembly as a "true paradigm shift. Now you can convert to the comfort and convenience of three wheels and keep all your accessories and exhaust. The Yelvington 3.0 integrates a new swingarm, and combines the classic styling of the Sportster, with the functionality of our conversion to create the complete "Rolling Art" trike package"; [www.ytrikes.com](http://www.ytrikes.com)



**HOFMANN DESIGNS** New from the Hanover, Minnesota custom engineer is their new "No Kickstand Frame Kit." A direct bolt-on replacement setup for 2009 and newer H-D touring models, the kit will allow the frame to lay flat on the ground, with proper neck rake and stretch, on up to an 18" rear wheel. The USA made gloss black powder coat kit includes an adjustable TIG welded swing arm and modified sub-frame, one-piece steel battery box & top strap, Lithium-Ion battery and a manually operated fail-safe system; [www.hofmann-designs.com](http://www.hofmann-designs.com)



**WISECO:** Recent new products from the Mentor, Ohio manufacturer include 131ci forged pistons which will produce a 2,150cc displacement Twin Cam, SE120R or S&S 124 motor with claimed figures of over 116hp and 132ft lb. The pistons feature 'ArmorGlide' skirt coating to reduce friction, are available with -8.6cc dome volume to fit S&S 124 engine, or 11.3cc dome volume to fit Screamin' Eagle 110+ and 120R cylinder heads. The rings are available in two versions – one version compatible with Nikasil plated cylinders and the other version for use with cast iron cylinder liners; [www.wiseco.com](http://www.wiseco.com)



**IKON SUSPENSION:** Australian made shock absorbers, based on the original but now much updated KONI motorcycle shock absorber designs. New last year, their 76-Series Ikon Basix program are dyno tested shocks for "the budget conscious" rider; [www.ikonsuspension.com](http://www.ikonsuspension.com)



**GOODRIDGE:** Recent new products from the noted "plumbing" specialist include PVC coated ABS compatible stainless steel braided brake lines for Baggers with a Teflon inner liner, and polished stainless steel or chromed steel hardware components; [www.goodridge.net](http://www.goodridge.net)



**RACEPRO MOTORSPORTS:** Rob Hassay's Race Pro vendor presentation ProTour event display and marketing services truck is a familiar sight at rallies and other events around the United States. Among the vendor product lines represented RacePro offers access to what is thought to be one of the largest ranges of Mikuni carburettor spare and service parts in the market; [www.888racepro.com](http://www.888racepro.com)



**K&L SUPPLY CO.:** One of the leading suppliers of equipment, tools and hard parts for the power sports industry; [www.klsupply.com](http://www.klsupply.com)



**ENERGY ONE:** With more than 30 years experience in the high performance motorcycle clutch industry, Kent and Nancy Folz say their replacement clutch plates and components are the "optimum choice for most late model and older Harley-Davidson models." All their clutch plates and components are 100% manufactured in the USA, and their Big Twin kits are "complete and include a full set of performance friction plates with a maximum groove pattern for heat dissipation and fluid circulation"; [www.energyoneclutches.com](http://www.energyoneclutches.com)



**TECHNORESEARCH:** Manufacturer of the DirectLink flash tuner, Centurion Super Pro diagnostics tool and Tune Builder tuning aid; [www.technoresearch.com](http://www.technoresearch.com)



**T-MAN PERFORMANCE:** From precision exhaust port welding to 124" bolt-in Nikasil cylinders and piston kits for 120R motors, there isn't much that TR Reiser hasn't got covered. Recent new products include Outboard Bearing Supports for ProCharger motors, Pro Lightened Flywheel Assembly ("the lightest and most durable flywheel on the market" according to TR), and chain conversion kits - as used recently by S&S Cycle on their 'Dragon' 143 project; [www.tmanperformance.com](http://www.tmanperformance.com)



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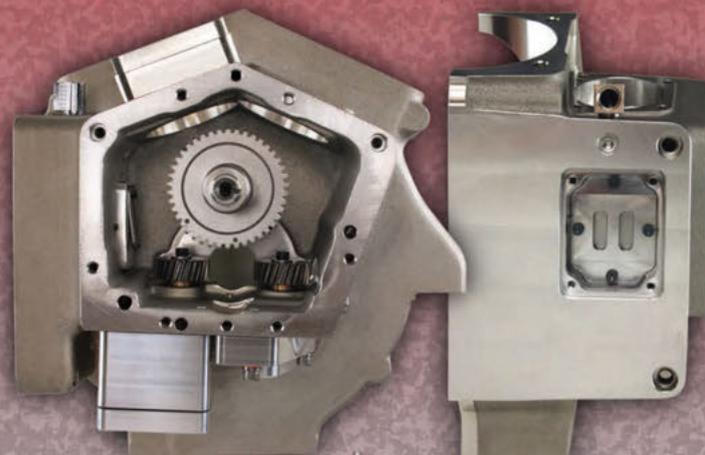


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**SADDLEMEN:** Rancho Dominguez, California headquartered manufacturer of motorcycle seats and feature rich luggage solutions for all riding styles; [www.saddlemen.com](http://www.saddlemen.com)



**FEULING:** Recent new products added to their fast growing engine tuning line include a range of fuel injectors and engine sensors, including throttle position sensor, an idle air control module and MAP sensors. The company also now offers two versions of its turnkey Bulletproof branded camchest kits (HP+ and Race Series) for 1999 - 2011 Twin Cams in combinations that include gear drive or chain drive camshafts; [www.feulingparts.com](http://www.feulingparts.com)



**J&M CORPORATION:** Latest products from the Tucson, Arizona based motorcycle audio and communications specialist include integrated helmet head-set kits for many of the most popular brands of full-face and flip-up/'modular' style helmets. J&M states that the headsets can be connected to any factory installed motorcycle audio system, now and in the foreseeable future, just by interchanging the lower-section hook-up cord; [www.jmcorp.com](http://www.jmcorp.com)



**RIVERA PRIMO:** Celebrating 45 years in the v-twin performance parts business, the Whittier, California headquartered company is still best known for their SU carb kits and award winning belt drives and clutches, not least their slim-line designs and Brute branded lines. However in the past couple of years they have been building themselves a position as the go-to source for the latest in advanced design power LED headlights and replacement bulbs; [www.riveraprimo.com](http://www.riveraprimo.com)



**KB PISTONS:** The Carson City, Nevada based company has a new line of forged piston designs available that are said to be quieter and deliver even more power gains. Featuring longer, often coated skirts for increased stability and superior heat and friction control, along with offset wrist pins, KB Harley forged pistons are made in low expansion 4032 alloy for a tighter piston-to-wall clearance; [www.uempistons.com](http://www.uempistons.com)



**KRAFTWERKS PERFORMANCE:** The Norco, California based performance engineer gave a debut to their HD Blower line of Big Twin supercharger kits at 'Cinci' last year. Using a Danish made Rotrex centrifugal compressor design, with its virtually silent patented 'traction' drive system, the company says it has been able to produce a supercharger that operates at internal rpms that are "unmatched" by other systems in a package that sites well in the geometry permitted by a 45 degree air-cooled v-twin; [www.kraftwerksusa.com](http://www.kraftwerksusa.com)



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**RINEHART RACING:** After the show the company announced that Gerald Rinehart had retired and sold the business to CEO Judd Hollifield; [www.rinehartracing.com](http://www.rinehartracing.com)



**RENEGADE WHEELS:** New wheels for 2015 from the Orange, California based manufacturer include their "hand polished" Newton and Logan "Phantom Cut" designs, available in "rich black" or color anodized finishes. All Renegade wheels are made in the US and are CNC machined from forged lightweight billet aluminum, and are available from 16 x 3.5" to 30 x 4" in Chrome, Phantom-Cut, Black Powder coat and their new range of custom color finishes, with matching Rotors, Sprockets, Pulleys, Derby Covers and Air Cleaners; [www.renegadewheels.com](http://www.renegadewheels.com)



**K&P ENGINEERING:** Specializing in high performance stainless steel micronic oil filters since 1995, K&P's fully cleanable and reusable oil filters are unaffected by water, heat and pressure. Owner Dave Fisher uses proven technology to "deliver a superior level of filtration, with magnetic prefiltering and high flow rate, that meets or exceeds manufacturer specifications"; [www.kandpengineering.com](http://www.kandpengineering.com)



**ARNOTT AIR SUSPENSION:** Recent new products from the Merritt Island, Florida based specialist include air suspension kits for Dyna models. With a choice of their 11-way adjustable 12 and 13 inch Aldan or lower-cost Bilstein shocks, Arnott use a reduced size ABS ready Gast compressor and offer almost 3 inches of adjustable shock height travel and a 5-year limited warranty on parts; [www.arnottairsuspension.com](http://www.arnottairsuspension.com)



**MOTOR TRIKE:** In addition to solid axle trike conversion kits for most Harley models, including V-Rods and Sportsters, the Troup, Texas based manufacturer, which celebrated its 20th anniversary last year, offers Independent Rear suspension (IRS) conversion kits for FLs (The Gladiator), Softails (The Spartan) and a GTX Sportster IRS conversion; [www.motortrike.com](http://www.motortrike.com)

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**RIDEWRIGHT WHEELS:** Best known for their 'Fat Daddy' chrome and anodized color 40, 50, 60 and 80 spoke wheel configurations, the Anaheim, California headquartered manufacturer also offers Exotica spoke wheels with 6061-T6 "Soft Lip Rim" technology in choice of twista, diamond and jewel spoke styles, Omega traditional steel wheels, and El Camino billet wheels with matching pulleys and rotors; [www.ridewrightwheels.com](http://www.ridewrightwheels.com)



**THE LEATHERWORKS:** When it comes to high quality hand crafted motorcycle saddlebags it doesn't get much better than this. Founded in 1976 and based in Stockton, California Leatherworks use 10/12 oz American tanned 'struck through' leather for color that lasts. Aimee Thacher and her team of highly experienced artisans offer saddlebags, sissy bar bags, tool bags and the widest possible range of custom options for that individualized look; [www.leatherworksinc.com](http://www.leatherworksinc.com)



**REVOLUTION PERFORMANCE:** The Plymouth, Wisconsin specialist offers crankshaft repairs, case modification services, cylinder machining and plating and complete engine remanufacturing. Their head repair services and upgrades include CNC porting polishing in three different stages for Twin Cams, Evos, XLS and Buells; [www.revperf.com](http://www.revperf.com)



**CARLSON COMPANY:** Leading workshop equipment and tools specialist, noted as one of the v-twin market's leading 'go-to' sources for tire changers, dyno room installations and American made Handy workshop lifts; [www.thecarlsoncompany.com](http://www.thecarlsoncompany.com)

**MEMPHIS SHADES:** Recent new screen designs include the Cafe Fairing for Dyna and Sportsters, that is said to "blend old-school style with new-style function", spoiler windshield for FLH fairings, and what the company describes as "an improved version of our Memphis Fats, the Drop-Top, which features a built-in, height-adjustable Venturi Wing that smooths the air flow and virtually eliminates buffeting"; [www.memphisshades.com](http://www.memphisshades.com)

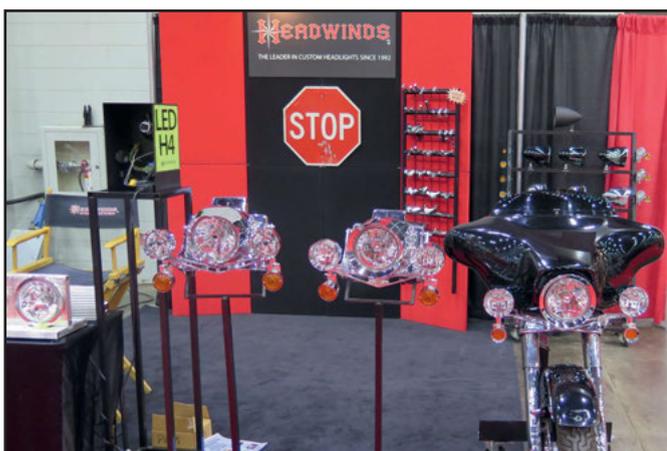




**DYNOJET:** The range of add-ons and accessories for the Power Commander V could defeat even the most earnest of performance enthusiasts, which is why the company puts so much effort into dealer, distributor and rep training. For example, for 2015 tourers add-ons for the PCV include built in ignition as well as fuel control, Auto Tune, the POD 300 digital display, PCV-PTi forced induction application module, Quick Shifter for full throttle, clutch-less shifting, and a Map selection switch; [www.powercommander.com](http://www.powercommander.com)



**ZIPPER'S PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS:** The Elkridge, Maryland based performance specialist has always been noted for performance upgrade kits that mate compatible components for achievable and usable horsepower and torque gains. Recent new kits have included their intake and exhaust upgrade Zip Kits, 'powered' by ThunderMax, with each kit comprising of a Zipper's MaxFlow air cleaner and the consumer's choice of performance exhaust and ThunderMax fuel controller. Meanwhile their newest big bore kit is the Muscle 107 incher designed for Twin Cam engines from '07 and up; [www.zipperperformance.com](http://www.zipperperformance.com)



**HEADWINDS:** Available chromed or polished and in a selection of styles, check out the California manufacturer's complete Bagger front lights setups - available for most popular years and models; [www.headwinds.com](http://www.headwinds.com)

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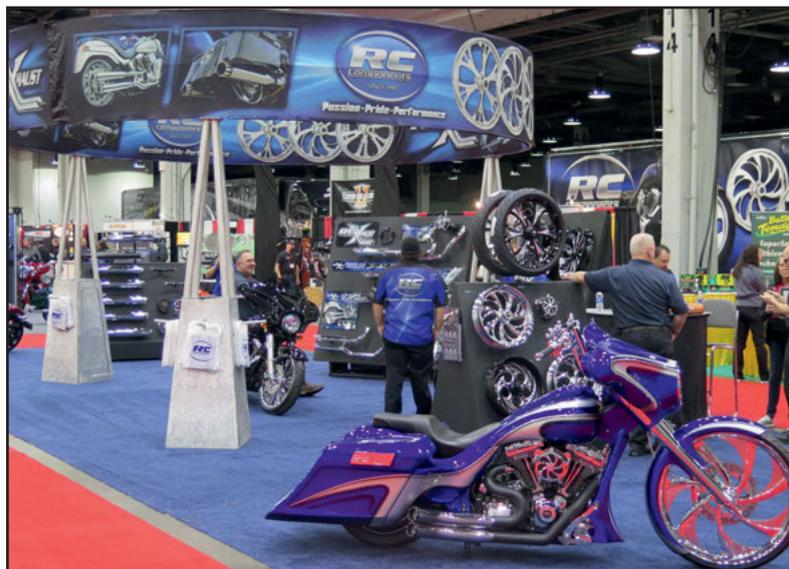


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**JAGG OIL COOLERS:** Check out their special limited edition Diamond Cut Deluxe oil cooler kit. Precisely machined end-caps feature hundreds of angled cuts that reflect light and look great with diamond cut cylinders. The original Jagg oil cooler and designed specifically for Harley applications, the Jagg Deluxe mounts to the left frame down-tube, spaced away from the frame to allow airflow to both the oil cooler and engine's cylinders. The six-tube, two-pass design is said to offer "three-times the cooling surface than our closest competitor. Special in-line turbulators add to the cooler's efficiency with minimal oil pressure loss or restriction"; [www.jagg.com](http://www.jagg.com)



**RC COMPONENTS:** Recent new products from the Bowling Green, Kentucky based manufacturer include their Cypher, Paradox and Dynasty billet wheel designs and RCX Power Max headers for Harley touring models; [www.rccomponents.com](http://www.rccomponents.com)



**BARNETT CLUTCHES & CABLES:** Recent new products from the 67 year old Californian specialist include direct fit clutch upgrade packages for '13-'15 CVO and SE Big Twins that feature Barnett's oil-flow boosting, segmented design Kevlar friction plates, tempered steel drive plates and a set of three heavy clutch springs. The company has also unveiled clutch and cable options for Indian models - including pre-lubed HE inner wire clutch cables in a choice of Black vinyl, Stainless Braided and Platinum Series with clear coat; [www.barnettclutches.com](http://www.barnettclutches.com), [www.barnettcables.com](http://www.barnettcables.com)



**BAKER DRIVETRAIN:** New from the Haslett, Michigan manufacturer, the easy-install Baker Cruise Drive Smooth Shift Kit for 2006-up Dyna and 2007-up FL/Touring models is said to reduce shift effort, prevent mis-shifts, reduce 'shift-clunk' and make it easier to find neutral; [www.bakerdrivetrain.com](http://www.bakerdrivetrain.com)



**ASA ELECTRONICS:** Founded in 1977, last year saw the Elkhart, Indiana specialist add to its extensive range of Jensen motorcycle audio applications with what it claimed was the first "true replacement radio" for H-D Touring bikes that was "made to fit into the factory opening without requiring any special mounting kit or brackets." The plug and play design of the unit means the factory harness plugs directly into the back of the Jensen radio and it works with the factory handlebar controls; [www.asaelectrics.com](http://www.asaelectrics.com)



**ANDREWS PRODUCTS:** "Providing engineered solutions to drive the design and manufacture of camshafts, pushrods, transmission gears and related parts for Harley Davidson products since 1972"; [www.andrewsproducts.com](http://www.andrewsproducts.com)

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## Trike Conversion Triple Tree Kits

HHI's Triple Tree Kits are designed for retrofit to all 1996-up FL model trike conversions. These trees provide for a much easier steering trike and are available in 7°, 9° and 12° rakes for various trike applications. Kits include the proper fork tube extension for the application and do not require longer fork covers.



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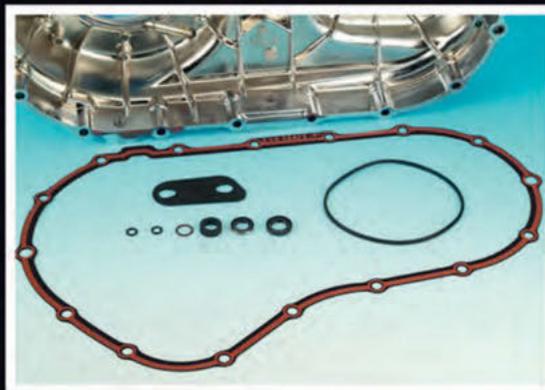
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to the SAE 5052 H38 aluminum core.

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## American Suspension fork tube Air Ride kit



AMERICAN Suspension's Air Ride Kit has been designed to create an easy conversion of stock Bagger forks to air ride. Each kit contains American Suspension's Air Ride spring, piston, cap, air fittings and tubing. The kit features everything needed to convert stock or custom 41mm or 49mm fork tubes.

**AMERICAN SUSPENSION**  
 Huntington Beach, California, USA  
 Tel: 321 285 9446  
[mark@americansuspension.com](mailto:mark@americansuspension.com)  
[www.americansuspension.com](http://www.americansuspension.com)



## Stretched bags and fender for Rushmore

BAD Dad has expanded its range of extended saddlebags and matching custom fenders to include an option for use on '14-'15 H-D Rushmore Touring models.

The bags and fender are a stretched design that adds 4-1/2in to the length of the bike compared to the original fittings. Supplied pre-drilled to make them an easy bolt-on option, the bodywork is finished in a final primer ready to paint.

**BAD DAD INC**  
 Fort Wayne, Indiana, USA  
 Tel: 260 407 2000  
[sales@baddad.com](mailto:sales@baddad.com)  
[www.baddad.com](http://www.baddad.com)



## Manganese bronze valve guides

KIBBLEWHITE describes its latest valve guides as being designed with the price-conscious engine builder in mind.

The manganese bronze valve guides have the usual exacting Kibblewhite tolerances, but with reduced toughness/wearability when compared to the company's premium C630 nickel aluminum bronze valve guides. The softer manganese guides are said to be easily reamed, and then can be delicately

finished with Kibblewhite's high quality ball hones. In fact Kibblewhite states that with any battery operated or electric drill, users can ream and hone manganese valve guides in less time, and in the absence of expensive honing equipment required to properly size nickel bronze guides.

**KIBBLEWHITE PRECISION MACHINING INC**  
 Pacifica, California, USA  
 Tel: 650 557 2046  
[sales@kpmi.us](mailto:sales@kpmi.us)  
[www.kpmi.us](http://www.kpmi.us)



# Fehling MSP handlebars

FEHLING has created the MSP range of handlebars to fit a wide variety of motorcycles without the need to change brake and clutch lines or wiring.

The 850mm wide Crack Bar is offered in both 1in

and 1-1/4in diameters and with 110mm of backward sweep. It can be ordered in either chrome or black finishes.

MSP Custom Bars, again in black or chrome and also 850mm wide, are 1in diameter and have a choice of 60mm or 90mm rise in combination with 100mm of rearward sweep. One-inch tubing is used for the MSP Race Bars that combine an 850mm width with 100mm off sweep and a rise of 50mm. Completing the MSP handlebar range are the Z-Bars, which are offered in both 1in and 1-1/4in diameters and the choice of 70mm or 110mm rise with 90mm of pullback. MSP Z-Bars are finished in either black or chrome.

MSP Z-Bars



MSP Race Bars



MSP Custom Bars



MSP Crack Bars

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## Flare Low for '14 onward FLH Models

KLOCK Werks' Flare windshield is now available for '14 onward FLH bikes. The new Flare Low has been designed to complement the new vent/duct system in the 2014 and newer batwing style H-D fairings.

"Riders who have purchased the 2014 and later H-D FLH models, versus the '13 and older models, will realize that the fairing sits 1in higher, thus a greater need for the Flare Low option that incorporates form and function," says company President Brian Klock.

Klock Werks' Flare windshields feature hips at the sides that are said to re-route wind away from the rider while adding downforce to the front-end of the motorcycle to improve stability. The flip at the top of the Flare redirects air back as clean, less turbulent air for rider and passenger.

Made in the USA from hard-coated polycarbonate material for added



durability and quality, the Flare is available in 6.5in, 8.5in, 11.5in heights as well as the new Flare Low (approximately 5in). The Flare Low is available in black and dark smoke options.

**KLOCK WERKS**  
**Mitchell, South Dakota, USA**  
**Tel: 605 996 3700**  
[info@kustomcycles.com](mailto:info@kustomcycles.com)  
[www.kustombaggers.com](http://www.kustombaggers.com)

## Extended handlebar wiring harness

NAMZ has created its NHCX-CB14 CAN/Bus handlebar switch wiring harness specifically for use on 2014 Bagger models. These particular bikes have a smaller sized, four-position handlebar switch connection and the new harness from NAMZ has been designed to work with this connection, replacing the stock harness with a longer one that enables easy fitting of higher handlebars. The new NAMZ wiring harness is a plug and play fitting, for internally wired handlebars and will work with 'bars up to 18in high.

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# Held Cafe Collection

HELD has launched a new clothing range under its Café Collection name, which the company says is designed for riders who favor simple, classic lines and a retro touch. Highlights from the Collection include the Harvey 76 jacket, Hoover jeans and Cattleman boots.

The Harvey 76 jacket combines vintage styling with modern armor technology. Soft



slip sole.

Held's Cafe Collection also includes the men's Pretender jacket and Prescott pants for riders preferring head-to-toe leather, and the Roxanne jacket and Aileen pants join other items in the Held Women's Collection.



cowhide is used in the jacket's construction and it features four external and two internal pockets, with zips to adjust ventilation and hip adjustment. Rider protection is offered through the use of EN 1621-1 CE-approved D30 adaptive armor at the shoulders and elbows, and there is special foam padding in the back with the option to fit an EN-1621-2 back protector.

Available in both men's and women's cuts, the Hoover jeans from Held's Café Collection add Kevlar reinforcement at the seat, hips, thighs and knees to regular styled jeans. They also feature pockets to carry optional knee armor.

The Cattleman boot is a classic style short boot with ankle and gearshift protection. Made from full grain cowhide, the boots include internal zip fastening and an anti-



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## 'Sinless' parts

PRECISION Billet Products have been manufacturing innovative billet accessories for over 15 years, and the Sinless range is no exception. The Sinless air cleaner is machined from aluminum and offered in a choice of black anodized contrast cut or chrome finishes. The complete package includes a high-volume K&N filter, backing plate, front plate and all mounting hardware. It is available to fit stock, single-throat EFI throttle bodies used on '01 Softail and all '02-onward EFI models.

The Sinless line continues with the CNC machined, 6061 T6 aluminum derby cover. It is available in the same choice of finishes to fit Dyna Fat Bob, Dyna Lowrider, Dyna Street Bob, Dyna Super Glide, Dyna Switchback, Dyna Wide Glide, Softail, Super Glide, Electra Glide, Road Glide, Road King, Street Glide, and Tri-Glide models ('06-'11 Dyna and '07-'15 Big Twins require an additional gasket available from H-D dealers).



**PRECISION BILLET PRODUCTS**  
 Gilbert, Arizona, USA  
 Tel: 480 813 1837  
[info@precisionbillet.co](mailto:info@precisionbillet.co)  
[www.precisionbillet.co](http://www.precisionbillet.co)



Tel: 0049 (0)5404 6394  
[info@wheelspoint.de](mailto:info@wheelspoint.de)  
**WWW.WHEELSPOINT.DE**

## Accutronix Extended Instigator floorboards

EXTENDED Instigator floorboards from Accutronix are designed to replace stock H-D floorboards and mount using stock hardware. Machined from 6061 T-6 billet aluminum, the driver floorboards are extended 2-1/2in in the front and rear and are 3/4in wider than stock. The passenger boards are extended 1-9/16in longer in the front and 1-9/16in longer in the rear.

Available in chrome or 'Night Series' (black anodized and then machined again for a contrast finish), Instigator floorboards feature multi-directional, slip-resistant black pyramid-top rubber inserts.

Driver and passenger footboards are to fit '84-'15 FLT, FLHT, FLHX, FLHR, FLTR, '86-'15 FLST, and '12-'15 FLD models. FLST and FLD models with passenger footpegs will require the use of OEM accessory floorboard mounts.

**DRAG SPECIALTIES**  
Janesville, Wisconsin, USA  
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[www.dragspecialties.com](http://www.dragspecialties.com)

[www.accutronix.com](http://www.accutronix.com)



## New options from Drag Specialties Seats

DRAG Specialties Seats has introduced its new Caballero low-profile seat, available for use on XL models with the choice of classic, diamond or carbon fiber stitch patterns. The lower profile of the seat is said to create a relaxed and improved rider position. The seat uses a 3/16in ABS thermoformed base and features a carpeted bottom to protect the bike's paint. The Caballero low-profile seat fits all '04-'15 XL models.

A second new low-profile seat from Drag Specialties Seats is the Solo for use on FL applications. The low profile design of the

Café Racer styling inspired the design of the new Caballero low-profile seat for XL models



The new Solo from Drag Specialties Seats has been designed for '08-'15 FLHT, FLHR, FLTR, and FLHX models



Solo is said to offer a better riding position that can lower the rider up to 1-1/2in, dependent on the model. It is supplied with all mounting hardware including the new EZ mount system that requires no tools for taking the seat on and off. Available in black, tan and red faux python patterns the Solo fits '08-'15 FLHT, FLHR, FLTR, and FLHX models.

**DRAG SPECIALTIES SEATS**  
Janesville, Wisconsin, USA  
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[drag@dragspecialties.com](mailto:drag@dragspecialties.com)  
[seats.dragspecialties.com](http://seats.dragspecialties.com)



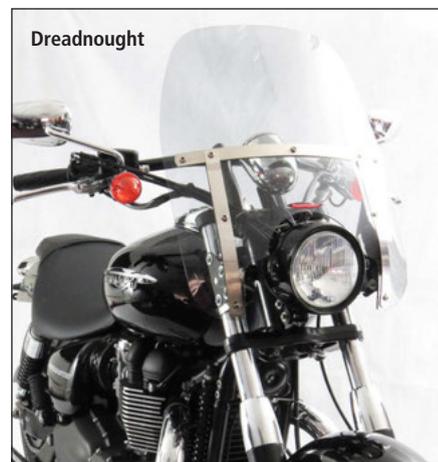
## Cruiser screens from Powerbronze

POWERBRONZE, well known in Europe for its extensive range of aftermarket bodywork and screens for sports bikes, has now introduced a line of windshields designed specifically for cruisers and customs.

The three new screens from Powerbronze all feature stainless steel frames and fittings with the Colossus and Dreadnought screens in clear or light tint 4mm material, while the shorter Vanguard screen in 3mm material is also available in darker colours.

The Dreadnought measures 570mm high (400mm above the top of the headlight) and 470mm wide. For riders looking for a wider screen, there is the option of the 560mm wide Colossus, which is 560mm high (390mm above the top of the headlight).

Completing the new range is the smaller Vanguard, which like the Dreadnought is 470mm wide, but is 400mm high (220mm above the top of the headlight).



**POWERBRONZE**  
Littlehampton, West Sussex, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)1903 783222  
[sales@powerbronze.co.uk](mailto:sales@powerbronze.co.uk)  
[www.powerbronze.co.uk](http://www.powerbronze.co.uk)

# Racing Leathers' Special Ops jacket

KEITH 'Bandit' Ball, the former editor of Easyriders magazine, and Founder and President of Bikernet.com has begun a new venture - 5-Ball Racing Leathers.

The company's first product is the Special Ops (12 pocket) jacket, which is described as having room for wallet, keys, smart phone, garage door opener and more.

Features on the Special Ops jacket include two gun pockets that are stitched in such a way to as be wider and deeper than the typical pocket, the use of light-weight milled buffalo leather, a heavy-duty, gun-metal-grey zipper front, bound leather neck trim, double-needle seam construction, and zip-off removable sleeves.

"The Special Ops Club jacket makes sense for riders as it supports the needs of bikers, including their safety and gear storage," says Keith 'Bandit' Ball. The Special Ops Club jacket is available at Crank & Stroker, J&P Cycles and Bartel's Harley-Davidson.



**5 BALL RACING LEATHERS**  
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# RSD brake calipers

ROLAND Sands Design has created a line of brake calipers that are said to use GP racing architecture and weight distribution in combination with greater rigidity compared to stock brakes to offer maximum input form the lever for greater stopping power. The calipers have been designed to be used with an RSD radial master cylinder for the best braking performance.

The new caliper bodies feature differential bore pistons (1.125in and 1.375in) to apply a different force at both the leading edge

and the trailing edge of the brake pads. The brakes, which are available for 11.5in and 11.8in/300mm front and rear disc applications, are supplied complete with pads, bleeder screw, 3/8in-24 banjo bolt and sealing washers and shim kit. Finish options on the calipers are Contrast Cut, Black Op, Machine Ops, or chrome.

**ROLAND SANDS DESIGN**  
 Los Alamitos, California, USA  
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[info@rolandsands.com](mailto:info@rolandsands.com)  
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# EMD parts available at MCS

MOTORCYCLE Storehouse has expanded its product range with the launch of the Esteves Motorcycle Design (EMD) line of parts. The EMD range of parts is designed and manufactured in France with the parts being sand cast in aluminum. The entire line of EMD parts is supplied in ammunition box style wooden shipping chests and the product range includes primary covers, transmission end covers, cam covers, rocker boxes, headlamp housings, wheel inserts, Bombshell triple tree sets for 39mm and 41mm tubes and even an air cleaner housing for CV and fuel injected bikes. Most EMD products are available for late model H-Ds including Softail, Dyna, Touring and Sportsters in a



variety of finishes including Raw, Semi-Polished, Black and 'Black-Cut'.

**MOTORCYCLE STOREHOUSE BV**  
 Bedum, NETHERLANDS  
 Tel: +31 (0)50 303 9775  
[info@mcseurope.nl](mailto:info@mcseurope.nl)  
[www.mcseurope.nl](http://www.mcseurope.nl)

**MOTORCYCLE STOREHOUSE**

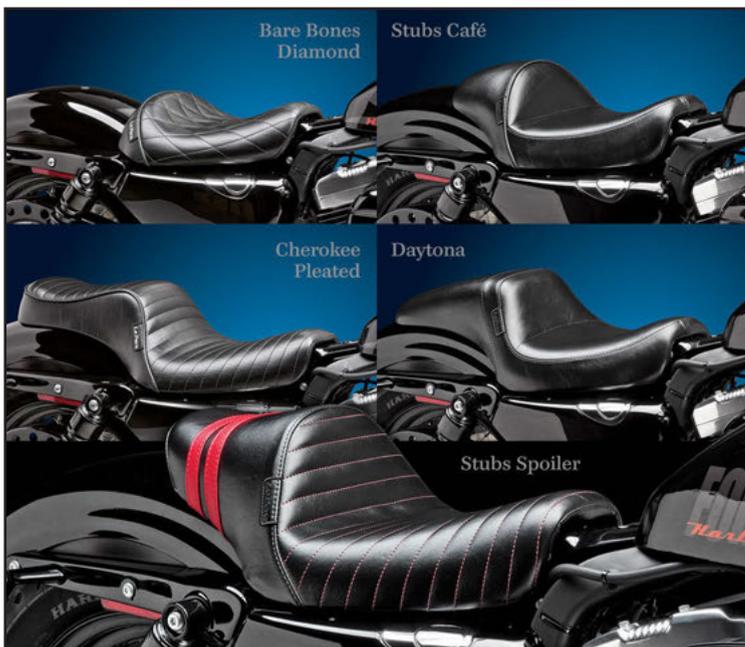


# Dyna Street-Pro Swingarms

BROCK'S Performance now has its Street-Pro aluminum swingarm for Dyna models in production. The extended swingarms are available in 0-3in or 2-6in over stock to give a bike a custom stretched look. Riders have the choice of 5/8in or 3/4in pivot shaft bushings along with a choice of axle (25mm, 1in, or 28mm). The swingarms are available in black powder coat or natural brushed aluminum, and a chain guard is included.



**BROCK'S PERFORMANCE**  
 Dayton, Ohio, USA  
 Tel: 937-912-0054  
[dealersupport@brockperformance.com](mailto:dealersupport@brockperformance.com)  
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# Pickard Bagger options

PICKARD USA is continuing to expand its product offerings for Bagger models with the introduction of raked fairing bracket packages. The new brackets have been designed to be used on '13 and earlier custom Road Glides that are running 26in or 30in wheels. Once installed, the heavy gauge steel brackets correct the fairing angle after the bike's neck has been raked. The brackets allow use of vented fairing lowers and eliminate the OEM fairing supports that are mounted to the engine guard.

Mounting between the inner fairing mount and the turn signals, the Road Glide fairing support

brackets can also be used to locate a mini amplifier or mount an air compressor.

Moving to the rear of the bike, Pickard has 4.5in extended Top Shop saddlebags. Made from injection molded vinyl ester reinforced fiberglass, the bags are carpet lined and primed ready for paint. The 4.5in extension allows for additional storage space and the bags are supplied with a custom removable shelf.

Options on Pickard's bags include no exhaust cut-out, or single or dual cut-outs. The factory lids and mounting hardware are re-used and Pickard offers billet aluminum latch covers as an additional option.



**PICKARD USA**  
Richardson, Texas, USA  
Tel: 972 231 1298  
[info@pickardusa.com](mailto:info@pickardusa.com)  
[pickardusa.com](http://pickardusa.com)

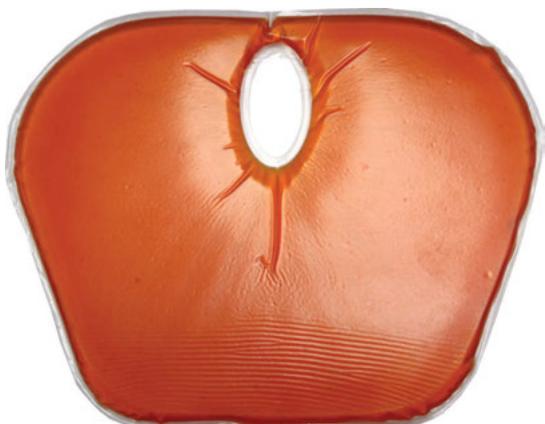


# Pro Pad ortho insert for motorcycle seats

PRO Pad is now making its ortho inserts available for installation into motorcycle seats. The company, which has been making gel inserts for motorcycle seats for over 15 years, has been using the ortho insert in its 1Diamond Mesh and Tech Series top pads for two years and the positive results have led to the ortho insert now being used in all of its top pads.

The ortho insert has a comfort channel said to relieve pressure on the rider's tailbone, which in turn reduces rider fatigue and shortens the recovery time on long rides. The insert is made of a soft, medical grade viscoelastic polymer that will not harden or bottom out. It also withstands extreme temperatures, from -60 degrees to +210 degrees. For installation, the gel can easily be trimmed to fit any motorcycle seat.

**PRO PAD INC**  
Mooresville, North Carolina, USA  
Tel: 704 660 1084  
[info@thepropad.com](mailto:info@thepropad.com)  
[www.thepropad.com](http://www.thepropad.com)



# SuperLight Stainless Series slip-on for Buell



SUPERTRAPP'S SuperLight Stainless Series slip-on mufflers for use on Buell models are a tunable, disc-based design said to offer a four percent increase in horsepower.

The stainless steel muffler is supplied complete with fifteen 4in tuning discs and it fits '99 - '02 Buell Lightning, '99 - '02 Buell M2 Cyclone, '98 - '02 Buell S-3 / S-3T Thunderbolt and '99 S-1 Thunderbolt White Lightning models.



**SUPERTRAPP**  
Cleveland, Ohio, USA  
Tel: 216 265 8400  
[sales@supertrapp.com](mailto:sales@supertrapp.com)  
[www.supertrapp.com](http://www.supertrapp.com)

# Magnum Shielding 'Designer' handlebar installation kits

MAGNUM Shielding's 'Designer' handlebar installation kits, which are available through Drag Specialties, are said to be the only complete kits available with matching braided cables and brake lines in a choice of Sterling Chromite II or Black Pearl.

The company is making its kits available for most ABS and non-ABS models with 12in to 20in ape hanger style handlebars. Each kit includes throttle and idle cables (except '08-'15 Dressers), clutch cable or hydraulic clutch line, front brake lines (which exceed DOT FMVSS-106 requirements), copper crush washers, hardware and correctly colored wiring

extensions with OE-style connectors and shrink tube. The fittings with each kit are either chrome or black chrome, dependant on the finish on the braided lines. Kits for dual disc models include an all brazed manifold that is said to eliminate leaks, alignment problems and unattractive threaded connections.

**DRAG SPECIALTIES**  
Janesville, Wisconsin, USA  
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[drag@dragspecialties.com](http://drag@dragspecialties.com)  
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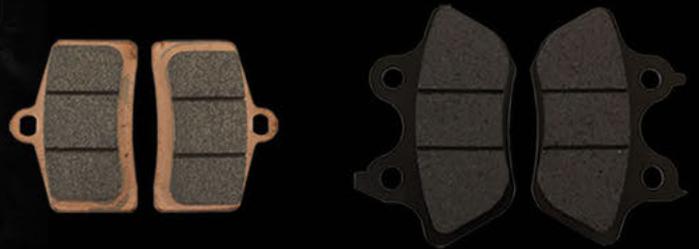
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# LA Choppers square column risers

LA CHOPPERS is offering its square column riser, for use with 1in handlebars, in the choice of 1in or 1.5in heights. The heavy-duty risers are machined from billet and are supplied complete with top caps and stainless steel mounting hardware. Finish options are chrome or gloss black.

**DRAG SPECIALTIES**  
Janesville, Wisconsin, USA  
Tel: 608 758 1111  
[drag@dragspecialties.com](mailto:drag@dragspecialties.com)  
[www.dragspecialties.com](http://www.dragspecialties.com)



[www.lachoppers.com](http://www.lachoppers.com)

# LED saddlebag extensions for Touring models



KÜRYAKYN now has a version of its LED saddlebag extensions available that have been designed for use on '14 and later Harley-Davidson Touring models. Kuryakyn has created its LED saddlebag extensions to give the look of modified custom saddlebags while adding auxiliary run-turn-brake LED lighting. The injection-molded ABS extension measures approximately 24in x 5in and features stainless steel heat shielding for protection from exhaust muffler heat. The extensions are available in chrome with red lenses or gloss black with smoked lenses, and come with all mounting hardware and connection for plug-and-play wiring.

**KÜRYAKYN**  
Somerset, Wisconsin, USA  
Tel: 715 247 5008  
[salesupport@kuryakyn.com](mailto:salesupport@kuryakyn.com)  
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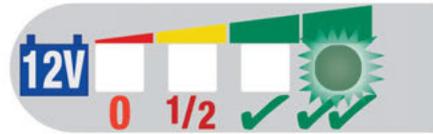


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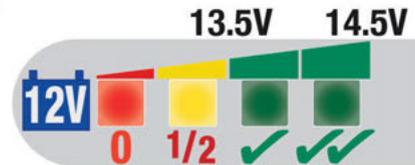
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# Sinister Wheel packages

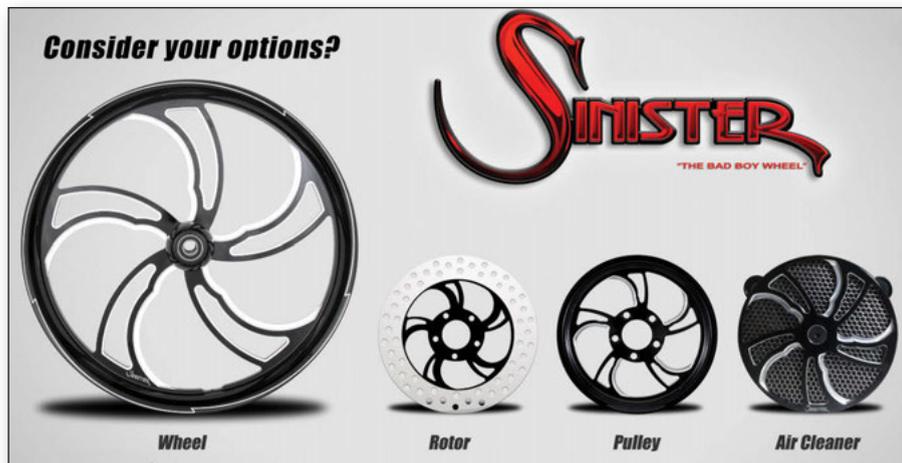
SINISTER Wheel is now offering complete accessory packages based around its wheel designs. The company, which has been manufacturing billet and spoked wheel since '96 is giving customers the opportunity to purchase wheels with matching rotors, pulleys, and air cleaners. Riders have the choice of color combination and edge cut finish as well as design.

Sinister's wheels are available in 32in, 30in, 26in, 23in, 21in, 18in, and 16in diameters, and rotors are offered in 11.5in, 11.8in, 13in and 18in sizes. To work with the rotors, Sinister Wheel has its own line

of floating calipers.

The air cleaner in the wheel package is said to give a performance boost, and if used with the stock exhaust no other changes are needed. However, if used with an aftermarket exhaust a Fuel injection recalibration is recommended.

**SINISTER WHEEL**  
**Turlock, California, USA**  
**Tel: 209 664 0207**  
**info@sinisterwheel.com**  
**www.sinisterwheel.com**



## Universal fit fixed axle trike conversion kit

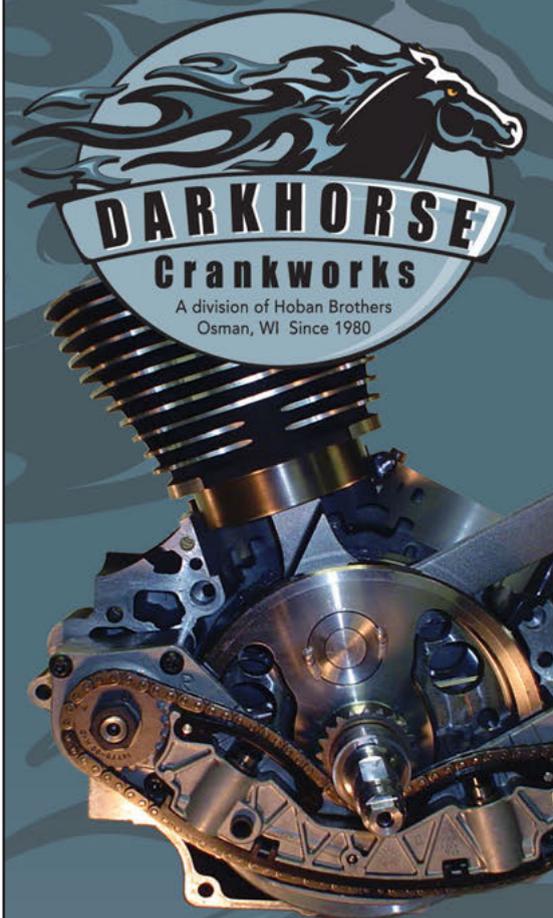


AMERICAN Trike, a company that already manufactures a universal fit independent suspension rear axle kit for trike conversion, is now offering a universal fit fixed axle conversion kit. The new axle has been designed to not only fit custom applications but also any production motorcycle including those with shaft drive.

The new axle set-up includes a slip differential and chrome-moly gearing, and like the independent unit offered by American Trike, it can be paired with a choice of a fender kit or body kit.

"Nothing looks or works like the original maintenance-free American Trike kits," says Sam Camp, Outside Sales and Marketing Manager, American Trike. "American Trike is set up for quick delivery on both units. Our goal was to be able to serve the entire trike market with no limitations and we have taken our time to develop this product with the same quality and innovation that has been our moniker."

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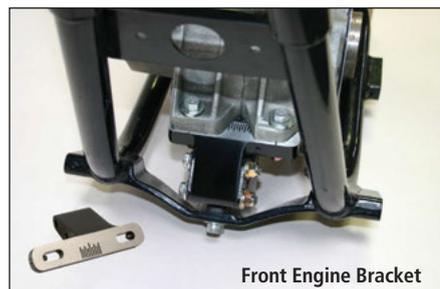
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# Dyna front engine bracket and top stabilizer link



CUSTOM Cycle Engineering has released two products which it states when used together will vastly improve the ride quality of Dyna models by aligning the bike's power train and reducing engine vibration.



Front Engine Bracket



Top Stabilizer Link

The front engine bracket allows riders to set engine alignment by sliding the engine left or right using the built in hash marks. This is complemented by the top stabilizer link, which is rubber isolated, adjustable and said to reduce vibration especially at high speeds. It replaces the stock link which is metal to metal from the top motor mount to the frame.



**CUSTOM CYCLE ENGINEERING**  
 Oceanside, California, USA  
 Tel: 760 941 6487  
[sales@customcycleengineering.com](mailto:sales@customcycleengineering.com)  
[www.customcycleengineering.com](http://www.customcycleengineering.com)



# TC Bros. 1in handlebar range

TC BROS. Choppers has introduced an extensive line of aftermarket handlebar options in 1in diameter for use on Harley-Davidsons. The entire range is available dimpled for '82-onward H-D hand controls, or smooth for pre-'82 and custom applications, and finished in the choice of satin black powder coat finish or chrome plate. All of the handlebar designs are CNC mandrel bent and where applicable have knurled riser clamp locations 3.5in on centers to fit standard Harley spacing (not Springer) and prevent bars from slipping once installed. The TC Bros. Narrow Mini Apes have 8in of rise and can be used with stock cables, brake lines, and wiring on most Harley models, and unlike most ape hangers on the market, the bottom of the bars are not wider than the trees.

Further options with the Narrow Mini Apes are the 12in rise and 16in rise versions that

share the same features as the 8in bars require the use of extended cables and lines. Lane Splitter 'bars by TC Bros. have 9.5in of rise combined with a 3in pullback. Once again these bars can be used with stock wiring and lines.

**TC BROS. CHOPPERS**  
 Wauseon, Ohio, USA  
 Tel: 419 265 9399  
[sales@tcbroschoppers.com](mailto:sales@tcbroschoppers.com)  
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Narrow Apes 16in



Lane Splitter



Narrow Mini Apes 8in

# Slip-ons for H-D Street 500 and 750

BASSANI Xhaust has a choice of two designs of slip-on mufflers for the H-D Street 500 and 750 models.

The first option from Bassani is its Short Megaphone, which features a black, 4in diameter body and is finished with a black billet end cap with contrasting machined flutes. Also included with the muffler is small heat shield that replaces the stock part.

The second slip-on design is a straight bodied 4in bodied muffler, again completed with a black billet end cap with contrasting machined flutes.



**BASSANI XHAUST**  
 Anaheim, California, USA  
 Tel: 714 630 1821  
[sales@bassani.com](mailto:sales@bassani.com)  
[www.bassani.com](http://www.bassani.com)



# The Whiplash Whip



WHIPLASH Industries has created its Whip to relocate the throttle body on '07 to present Harley-Davidson 883cc and 1200cc Sportsters. The company says that dyno test of the Whip has shown that it offers significant power increases as a result of moving the throttle body to a forward facing position and lengthening the intake manifold behind it.

"With The Whip we have utilized the oncoming air to be forced into the cylinder as the intake valve opens," says Whiplash Industry's Morgan Newton.

"The intake runner is on a horizontal plane and relocates the throttle body to be forward facing. By lengthening the intake runner between the throttle body (which controls how much air is supplied to the engine) and the intake valve, it allows the air to travel uninhibited and at a greater speed and velocity to the cylinder, therefore forcing more in."

Included with each The Whip is a K&N air filter, manifold extension, quick change air inlet, flared quick attachment, MAF sensor hold down bracket, 'L' bracket, Custom Chrome crankcase breather

tube, 24in of 5/16in hose and mounting hardware.

**WHIPLASH INDUSTRIES**  
 Squamish, British Columbia, CANADA  
 Tel: 604 849 1661  
[info@whiplashindustries.com](mailto:info@whiplashindustries.com)  
[whiplashindustries.com](http://whiplashindustries.com)

# Oversized 450 slip-ons

VANCE & HINES latest slip-on exhaust muffler for H-D Touring models is its Oversized 450 range, which it is offering with a choice of three CNC machined billet end cap designs. The 4.5in diameter

Raider (black tip)



Titan Chrome



mufflers feature fiberglass wrapped 2.5-inch perforated core baffles, with optional quiet baffles available. The slip-on, which will fit bikes with extended skirts fitted to the saddlebags, are available in chrome,

Destroyer (black)



with black tip or all black finish, and the choice of Destroyer, Titan and Raider style end caps. The Oversized 450 slip-ons fit '95-'15 Touring models.

**VANCE & HINES**  
 Santa Fe Springs, California, USA  
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# Custom Chrome expands range

HODGES Kustomz say that their new 'Batwingz' wind deflectors have been designed to help reduce turbulence and drag. Available in paint-ready black Abs and shaped to match the lines of the



Hodges Kustomz Batwingz wind deflectors are said to help reduce turbulence and wind drag

fairing. They are sold in pairs for mod-free install on all '96-'13 FLHT, C, U, and X models.

The 'Tomahawk' fork brace is a laser-cut 3/16in steel replacement that is said to increase fork rigidity



for improved stability on Dyna models. Available in chrome-plated or gloss black powder coated finish, they are designed for 21in or 19in wheels in 49mm forks.

Custom Chrome's LED curved license plate for custom applications will fit most H-D models '55 and up that have three-hole license mounts. Designed to match the curve of the rear fender, the frame includes LEDs and a laydown mount. The lights in the frame have four functions - running lights, brake lights, turn signals and license plate light.

Among Custom Chrome's extensive service parts, the RevTech High Performance Complete Oil Change kit is said to include everything needed to change the motor, primary and transmission oils. The kit contains RevTech High-Performance blended 20w50 motor oil, 80w90 transmission oil, primary lube, magnetic oil filter, derby and inspection cover gaskets and drain plug O-rings. They are available for most popular models.

**CUSTOM CHROME INTERNATIONAL**  
Morgan Hill, California, USA  
Tel: 408 825 5000  
[www.customchrome.com](http://www.customchrome.com)



The Tomahawk fork brace has been designed to provide increased stiffness to the front end of Dyna models



Multi-function LEDs in a curved license plate frame and lay down mount



RevTech's High Performance Complete Oil Change kits include everything needed to change the motor, primary and transmission oils

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# FXR accessories

ARLEN Ness has revisited its range of parts for the Harley-Davidson FXR and added new products to its original line of accessories. Among the parts that have been re-introduced are the company's billet aluminum fender rails. For the 2015 version the rails get a revised design with contrast aluminum against black anodizing. A chrome finish is also available, and both options fit '87-'94 FXR models.

Additionally, a selection of bodywork options are being made available for the FXR, which includes Arlen's original fairing design in both plain and louvered styles. The Ness side covers conceal the bike's brake and electrical components and offer a canvas for custom paint options. To complete the

Ness FXR bodywork



bodywork range there are stash trays that are form fitted to go under the seat for easy access to tools, registration, insurance, or anything the rider wants to easily conceal. Both the side covers and stash tray fit all '82-'94 FXR models.

**ARLEN NESS ENTERPRISES**  
 Dublin, California, USA  
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[contact@arlenness.com](mailto:contact@arlenness.com)  
[www.arlenness.com](http://www.arlenness.com)



Fender rails



# Speed Merchant parts at Drag Specialties

PART of the Speed Merchant line of fittings available through Drag Specialties, the company's preload adjusters replace the stock fork caps and allow fine tuning of the bike's front suspension, with almost 1in of preload adjustment.

The adjusters are CNC machined from 6061 aluminum, finished in gold anodizing, and supplied complete with O-rings ready to install.

A second small part in the Speed Merchant range are radial front brake caliper mounts. The brackets allow the fitting of radial mount brake calipers, such as Tokico calipers from '04-'09 Suzuki GSX-R600/750 models, on H-D forks. The mounts are available with a black or polished finish for 11.5in, 11.8in and 13in brake discs, and are supplied with shims.

The skid plates by Speed Merchant bolts to stock H-D frames with no cutting or welding required. Hand-made from aluminium, and



supplied with mounting hardware, the skid plates are available in a brushed finish or black powder-coat.



**DRAG SPECIALTIES**  
 Janesville, Wisconsin, USA  
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[drag@dragspecialties.com](mailto:drag@dragspecialties.com)  
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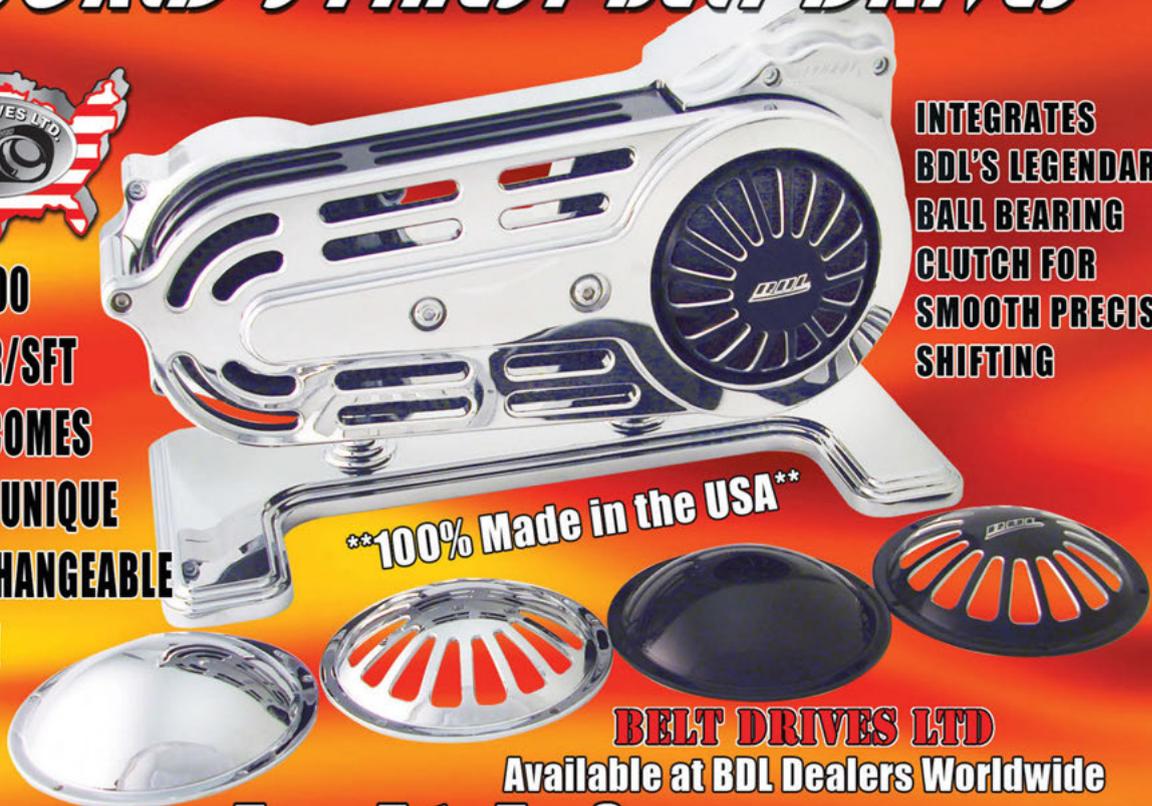
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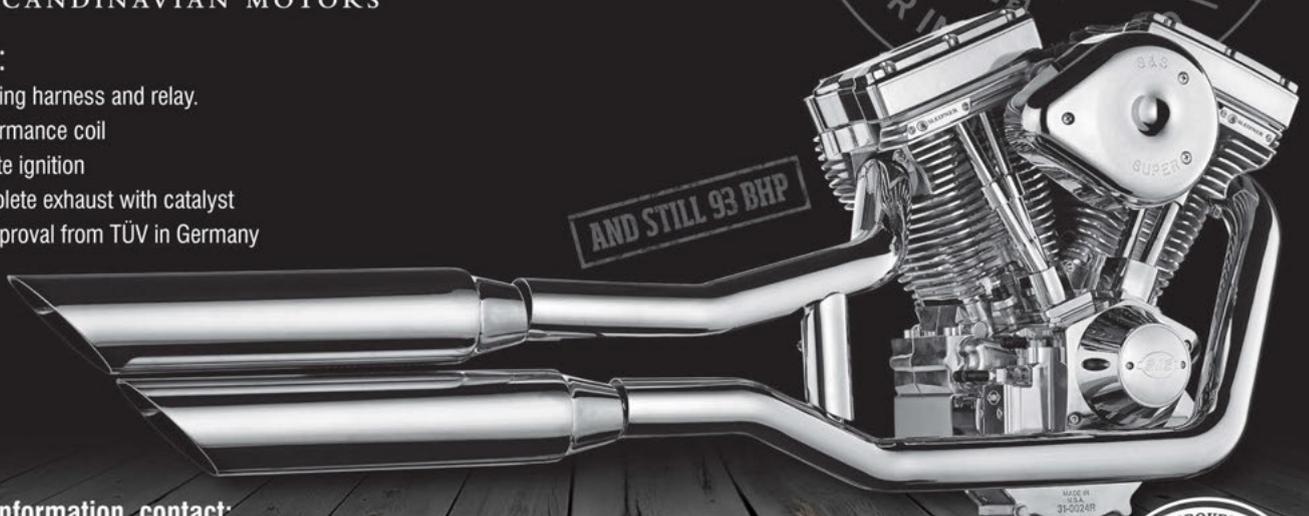
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# VICTORY & INDIAN PRO-GUIDE

## Barnett Scorpion clutch for Victory



BARNETT has launched a version of its high-performance Scorpion clutch specifically for use on Victory motorcycles.

The Scorpion billet clutch assembly features a CNC

machined billet aluminum pressure plate, in combination with a steel inner hub, and clutch plates that are said to increase the surface area by 100 percent. The new clutch also utilizes six coil springs

for a smoother, more progressive engagement compared to the stock diaphragm spring clutch, and multiple coil spring sets of different tension ratings are included to provide a variety of spring pressure options.

The Scorpion clutch, which is designed to fit into the OEM clutch basket, is suitable for stock and high performance motors and is available for all '01 and later models.



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## Indian Scout rider boards and heel shifter

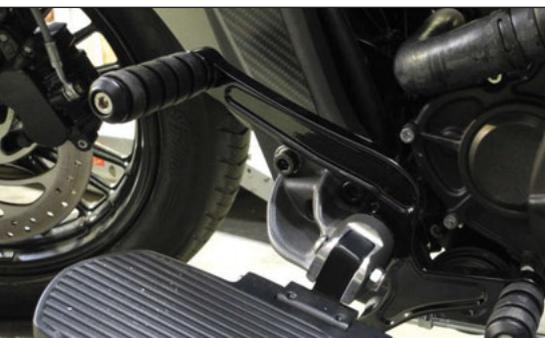
AEROMACH USA has begun production of rider floorboards and heel shifters for the 2015 Indian Scout. "We have already heard

from dealers that buyers of the Scout are looking for floorboards and some are requesting a heel shifter. We are working fast and furious to get these products, and a few others, done," says Paul Aiken, owner of Aeromach.

"We were fortunate to get delivery of our bike from the first run of bikes delivered. The announcement by Polaris that full production and delivery of the new Scout will be delayed until probably the second quarter of 2015 gives us an opportunity to build some inventory before the bikes begin to hit the dealers. We look forward to shipping product to dealers before the bikes are available," continued Aiken.

Aeromach was the first aftermarket manufacturer to deliver accessories for the 2014 Indian Chief when it shipped including a heel shifter, floorboard relocation kit and dual-position passenger floorboards.

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## Indian Scout parts

TRASK Performance is one of the first aftermarket businesses to begin offering parts for the new Indian Scout motorcycle with a product range that includes exhaust options and handlebars.

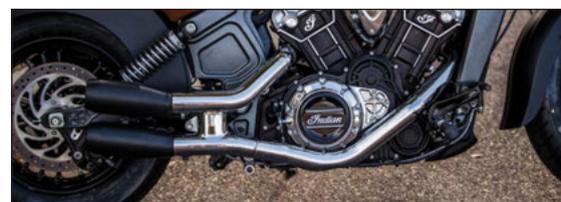
The 2-into-1 exhaust system from Trask has been dyno developed to provide performance gains through-out the entire power-band. Testing on a dyno by Trask has shown performance of 98hp and 74ft lb of torque, a claimed increase of 15 percent,

when the exhaust was used in combination with the company's Scout air filter on an otherwise stock model.

Trask uses steel tubing that is shaped with a mandrel for its exhausts and the Scout system features built-in O2 bungs and a full-coverage heat shield. The system is available in a choice of chrome finish, black ceramic, or a black/chrome combination finish.

A slip-on muffler option is also available from Trask for use on the Indian Scout. Said to offer a 10 percent gain in both performance and torque, the steel slip-ons are available in a choice of black ceramic or chrome finishes.

Completing the range of new parts from Trask for the Scout are the company's V-line handlebars. Made from seamless, DOM mild steel and designed as a direct bolt-on replacement, the handlebars are available in black powder coat, chrome or raw (ready for paint) finishes.



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# NUT CRACKER



Trends in the custom bike scene come and go. Today wild Choppers with 300 rear tires are a rare sight on the custom bike show scene and the number of board track influenced machines continues to decrease as builders move towards Café Racer inspired builds as the late '50's and early '60 are being revisited for styling cues. However, one builder who is ahead of the game is Paul Milbourn, whose latest build reinterprets the Digger builds of the '70

Words: Duncan Moore - [duncan@dealer-world.com](mailto:duncan@dealer-world.com) - Pictures: Onno @ Madness Photography - [onno@madnessphotography.nl](mailto:onno@madnessphotography.nl)

**P**AUL Milbourn is an established privateer builder in the UK custom bike scene, but the 2014 World Championship of Custom Bike Building was his first international event. While initially unsure about entering his bike – Nut Cracker – in the show, Paul did so on the advice of Wade and Stig at English custom shop Sickboyz Customs and was rewarded with 5th place in the Freestyle class.

Like many of the Digger style bikes originally built in the '70s, the starting point for Paul was a Honda motor – an XL600. The initial plan was to leave it basically stock, and on the bike's first outing that was the case. Unfortunately, the cylinder head cracked and unable to find a replacement Paul had to machine the head from a 650 Honda Vigor to fit. This in turn meant he had to then create a custom inlet manifold for the twin Amal carbs and modify the one-off stainless steel two-into-two exhausts.

Knowing that he wanted to keep the custom cut wheels as clean as possible, Paul then turned his attention to the bike's transmission where he created a one-off trans brake. He reworked the gearbox casing in order to mount a BMW rotor, which is gripped by a six-piston Harrison Billet caliper.

The goose-necked frame that holds the Honda drivetrain began life as two sheets of 5mm stainless steel, out of which Paul



Cutting the blanks to create the five-spoke wheels was one of the few jobs that Paul Milbourn didn't do himself on Nut Cracker

cut the outline he wanted. These pieces were then joined together by a section of 2mm stainless that runs along the center. With the bare frame in place, he then made up the swingarm section for the rear, using a similar method. The detail work on the stainless panels that adorn the bike was all done by hand. He then turned his metal working skill to crafting the twin mild steel gas tanks that run along either side of the frame's backbone and the mild steel oil tank underneath the seat. The seat itself on Nut Cracker is almost impossible to see because it has been made

from white leather with red stitching by Zac to match the paint on the frame that was applied by Dave Gunby.

More of Paul's metal working skills can be seen at the front of the bike, where he fabricated the entire Springer fork and handlebar combination. The front legs of the Springer are each made up of six stainless steel bars braced together at intervals along their length. A similar multiple thin tube design is used for the handlebars too, which finish in one-off grips that include a hidden throttle and hidden twist clutch. The shock at the front of the

# AMD CUSTOM BUILD

bike is currently a coil over and oil damper, but Paul is working on an electromagnetic shock of his own design to replace it. The 21x3in wheel at the front of the bike was cut from a solid blank to Paul's design by Wynn Engineering, who gave the 16x5in rear wheel the same treatment, and it's the only machining work on the bike that Paul didn't do himself. Both wheels are shod with Avon Speed Master tires. Having finished the build of Nut Cracker, which was intended to be a bike for his wife, Paul took it to a small UK show, where it took top honors, and that led to him being persuaded to enter the World Championship and win his fifth place finish in the Freestyle class.

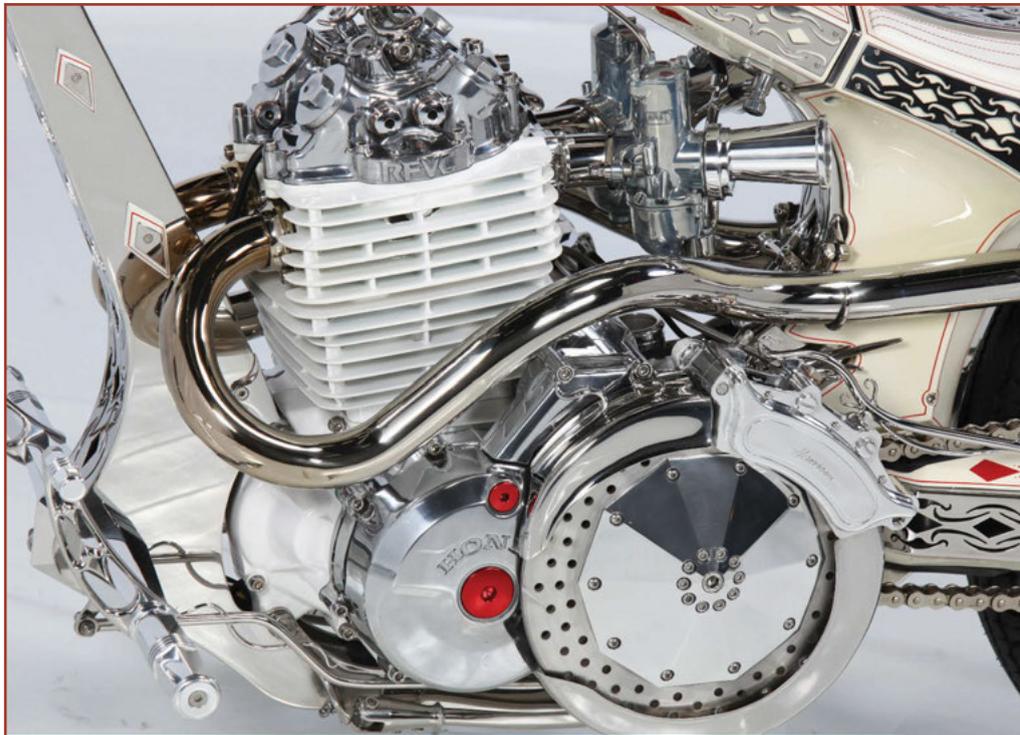
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Paul Milbourn built Nut Cracker as a bike for his wife



The narrow profile of Nut Cracker was inspired by the Digger style Choppers built by the likes of Arlen Ness in the '70s



Braking on Nut Cracker is done by a Harrison Billet supplied custom brake caliper that works with a BMW rotor on the gearbox output



The stainless steel detailing that adorns the frame was all cut by hand by Paul



The Motor began life as a Honda XL600 but was rebuilt with a 650 Vigor cylinder head when the original was found to be cracked

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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Former Drag Specialties Sales and Marketing VP Greg Blackwell has been hired by KTM North America as their VP of PG&A.**

Kuryakyn has hired John Kear as its new Head of International Sales. Kear joins from being responsible for Dealer Commercial and Network Development with Honda Europe, and has also held positions with Peugeot UK and with Harley in the US and Europe.

**Champion Trikes has announced that it is closing the Lehman Trikes factory at Spearfish, South Dakota with the loss of 12 jobs. Garden Grove, California based Champion bought Lehman in 2012 after the company had run into financial difficulties and suspended production.**

Harley-Davidson's widely reported Kansas facility layoff of 169 employees follows 140 redundancies in May 2013 and will leave some 630 people staffing the 400,000 square foot facility it built in 1998.

**Polaris is making some progress in achieving road legality for its Slingshot three-wheeler in a handful of states that have so far refused to grant certification. Meanwhile the Autocycle Safety Act is a new federal bill being introduced in the US Senate to set standards and resolve status for such vehicles.**

# Pirelli Metzeler to come under Chinese ownership in \$8bn deal

**THE iconic Italian Pirelli tire brand and its German Metzeler specialist motorcycle tire subsidiary are being purchased in a complex 8 billion dollar deal by the giant China National Chemical Corp (ChemChina).**

ChemChina will become the majority owner of the world's fifth largest tire maker, with the 67 year old Marco Tronchetti Provera, one of Italy's best known business men, who married into the Pirelli founding family 30 years ago, staying on as Chief Executive for another 5 years.

ChemChina is a state-owned Chinese chemical company whose China National Tire and Rubber Co subsidiary would initially purchase the 26 percent stake in Pirelli held by CamFin, its current largest shareholder, for \$1.9 billion.

The new owner, who would then seek to take over the remaining share of the 143 year old Italian company, securing control of Pirelli's intellectual property, manufacturing facilities and tire technology.

With initial bridging finance being provided by a consortium of Western banks headed up by JP Morgan, CamFin, which itself is 50 percent owned by Russian oil company Rosneft - whose President, Igor Sechin, is the subject of US government sanctions due to his close associations with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Once the initial stage of the deal has passed regulatory hurdles by the summer (assuming it does), a mandatory tender offer for Pirelli's remaining share capital will be made at the same price that ChemChina is paying for CamFin's stake - representing a considerable premium over the recent average trading prices



of the stock concerned.

Pirelli is the sole tire supplier to Formula 1, with sales exceeding €6 billion (\$6.5 billion) and a sales network that covers more than 160 countries and regions.

Although Pirelli's Powersports industry tire operations are a small percentage of its overall business, the

ChinaChem had previously expressed interest in acquiring Ohio-based Cooper Tire and Rubber, owner of British manufacturer Avon Tyres, Metzeler's primary dominant rival for custom motorcycle tire market leadership.

According to the Financial Times "Cooper Tire was subsequently at the centre of a bitter dispute between Apollo Tyres of India, which proposed paying \$2.5bn for the US company, and Chengshan Group, Cooper's former China joint venture partner. Chengshan's opposition scuppered what would have been the biggest ever US acquisition by an Indian company." Cooper Tire recently announced that it was embarking on a \$200m common stock repurchase plan.

The ChinaChem-Pirelli deal has sent shockwaves around the global tire industry, and as this edition of AMD Magazine went to press, Pirelli CEO Marco Tronchetti Provera was firefighting rumours that Japanese giant Bridgestone was contemplating a rival bid.

Although he is adamant that this is the right deal at the right time for Pirelli, with other opportunities having been rejected, this not expected to be the last tire industry M&I action in the coming months and years. In response to this announcement established and aspiring players alike will be seeking to make sure that they are not left behind when this new outbreak of ownership, partnership and strategic alliance realignments is concluded.

the deal has sent shockwaves

Pirelli brand is nonetheless a major player in the motorcycle tire market, not least because of its ownership of the German Metzeler brand.

ChemChina, which has a strong position as an industrial tire maker in China through four active subsidiaries, including Aeolus, has long been looking for overseas acquisitions. Its planned purchase of Pirelli will help it to grow its market share in premium consumer tires.

The sprawling Beijing based group has some 140,000 employees and nine listed business units whose shares trade on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchanges. Founded by Mr Ren Jianxin, who is known as one of China's "merger kings",



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