

CARBON COPY

AUGUST 2020



DISTINCTLY THE BEST

The Front Wheel

Zero compromise... that's my philosophy, and it has driven BST for the best part of two decades. For me, it is a comfortable place to move on from – I simply wanted to make the very best wheel.

Everyone seems to have an opinion on composites but if you're afraid of composites you shouldn't get out of bed – making things from composites is a fact of life. We have wheels out there that have done over 160 000 kilometres (or 100 000 Miles) and there's no corrosion, no fatigue – and they still look remarkably contemporary.

All good design is ultimately based on the technical problem, and if a product solves that in an elegant and technologically-sound way the end result will invariably be appealing too. Interestingly, carbon fibre gives us broader scope in solving technical challenges without compromising aesthetics.

Getting back to my 'no compromise' ethos: There are exciting things happening at BST and the demands on my time are going to be greater than ever. Talking to you (and hearing back from

you) is something I want to continue doing but we don't want to waste your time – or ours.

I've therefore handed this newsletter over to a pro; a former journalist who has written about all things automotive for more than 30 years. Expect this in your Inbox once a month and we'd love your feedback. By the way, here in South Africa we talk about carbon fibre, colours and tyres, so don't call him out on his spelling – though he has suggested a mirror image version with American spelling.

And yeah, feedback is good, so bang off an email to me if you have comments on Carbon Copy or anything else related to wheels and motorcycles!

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The Pipeline

New motorcycle fitments now available (please enquire at your local dealer):

- BMW: 2020 S1000RR & M
- Indian: 2020 Scout – Challenger – FTR
- Harley Davidson: Fat Boy

Coming Soon:

- CBR1000RRR
- BMW – GS & R9T



Race-Ready

Many things make the Ducati Superleggera V4 special, not least of all the wheels we supplied for it. Other than that, we'll let the pictures do the talking.



THE NEWS

#DistinctlyTheBest BRAD BINDER



What a Boytjie!

The word in the headline is pronounced boy-key and the phrase what a boytjie is a South African way of saying "great stuff!". And that's what we're saying to our local hero Brad Binder, who on Sunday August 9 did two amazing things simultaneously: he became the first member of the rainbow nation to win a MotoGP and he gave KTM their first MotoGP victory.

This humble young man deserves every atom of success that has come his way and he has certainly repaid the brand's faith in him – with a win in only his third race in the premier category. We look forward to seeing him on the podium on a regular basis!



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Rest of the World



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Shop in the EU



Shop Here

Are You a Shopaholic?

If you love online shopping, you'll be pleased to hear that BST is about to launch its OnLine Shop.

It has been a work in progress for longer than we would've liked but from the comfort of your own armchair you can now browse the complete range of BST wheels, place the order and have them shipped to your door via our global trusted partner, DHL Express.

GP TEK

Shooting the lights out!

The brief was simple: design and build the lightest motorcycle wheel possible!

The result? The competition/track-specific GP TEK, which as a front wheel weighs just 3.9 lbs/1.77 kg and as a driven wheel is a mere 5.29 lbs/2.40 kg. A key feature is the use of specialised carbon fibre to tailor the cornering stiffness and reach an unprecedented level of rigidity.

Other noteworthy features are hubs machined from 6000 grade aircraft aluminium, fasteners of grade 5 titanium, and a new, BST-patented serviceable coating between the tyre and rim that protects the wheel from damage during tyre changing.

So that every individual wheel can be traced right back to its birth at any point in its lifespan, there is RFID tag for DNA traceability. This is not only an anti-theft measure (making the wheel identifiable with a simple, hand-held device) but means every component's background and history is known.

WEIGHT (depending on fitment)

Front @ 3.95 lbs / 1.70 kg

Rear @ 5.29 lbs / 2.40kg

SIZES

Front: 17 x 3.50 / 17 x 3.75 / 17 x 4.00

Rear: 17 x 6.00 / 17 x 6.25



For competition/track use only

The Rear Wheel

Our first CF wheel was the Diamond TEK, introduced almost two decades ago.

A pair weighed in at just 6.5 kg/14.33 lbs, a figure which stunned the motorcycle community at the time. Our latest wheel the GP TEK weighs 4.16 kg/9.17 lbs a pair. Now that's progress.



Diamond TEK - 6.5 kg / 14.33 lbs



GP TEK - 4.16 kg / 9.17 lbs

THE PEOPLE



What a "Wow"man!

August is Women's Month in South Africa, so there couldn't be a more appropriate time to put the spotlight on Terry Annecke, a founding partner of Blackstone Tek, and the financial brain behind what goes on at our operation.

After a stellar career in big corporates – Specifically IBM and Microsoft – Terry dived into the unknown with BST, a start-up with a product that was completely unproven (well, outside our circle anyway) and teamed up with Gary Turner.

A solid understanding of capital, finance, IT, sales, marketing and a host of other skills has made her the perfect foil for Gary's visionary thinking, technical know-how, and creativity.

"It has been an amazing journey – being at the cutting edge of any industry is always exciting, although stressful too," says Terry. "Our success has been a team effort all the way and sometimes I can't believe we have made over 40 000 wheels, and the automotive brands – two and four-wheeled – that swear by our products is all the validation we could hope for.

"I suppose the only 'failure' – or what Gary would call a failure - is that he hasn't converted me into a bike rider. Sorry, but I prefer four wheels under me – which is one of the reasons I'm so excited about the future!"