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New 'CenterTrack' System from Gates is the Lightest, Strongest, Cleanest Bicycle Belt Drive Ever Created

Invented by cycling innovator Wayne Lumpkin, CenterTrack™ is the new killer app for cyclists who prize low maintenance and premium performance

(Denver, Sept. 16, 2010) -- Gates Carbon Drive™ Systems, the global leader in bicycle belt-drive technologies, will introduce a new patent-pending drive train technology at Interbike called CenterTrack™, which promises to provide the lightest, strongest, cleanest and highest-performing belt-drive system ever created.

CenterTrack™ features an innovative new design that offers all the advantages of existing Carbon Drives but with a whopping 20 percent more tensile strength, a slimmer profile and the most advanced dirt- and debris-shedding ever. Gates will show the new drive train for the first time at Interbike's Outdoor Demo, Sept. 20-21. The inventor and engineers from Carbon Drive Systems will be on-hand to answer questions and demonstrate CenterTrack's attributes.

"CenterTrack is a quantum leap forward for belt-drive technologies. It offers all the clean, quiet and strong advantages of our existing drive trains but with an even higher level of performance," says Todd Selden, Director of Gates Carbon Drive Systems. "We believe it will become one of the bike industry's must-have killer apps."

CenterTrack features an ingenious advancement of the increasingly popular belt and pulley system that debuted at Interbike in 2007. Instead of a raised flange on the side, the front and rear pulleys of CenterTrack feature a narrow track that runs around the center of their circumference. The CenterTrack belt has a channel on its underside that fits snugly onto the track for perfect alignment every time.

The CenterTrack belt's teeth engage with the pulleys, whose sides have been removed for optimal debris shedding. Dirt and grime simply fall

away, making CenterTrack technology ideal for muddy or snowy conditions. Gates will offer the CenterTrack technology on its new CDX-CT drive train, which will be the new premium component offering from Carbon Drive Systems. CDX-CT joins the CDX and CDC product lines.

CenterTrack was conceived by Wayne Lumpkin, one of the most innovative thinkers in the bike industry and the creative spark behind Avid brakes for many years. Gates and Lumpkin worked together to develop and test the CenterTrack technology and bring it to market. "My goal is always to create products that make bicycling easier and more fun for the user," Lumpkin says. "I want cyclists to enjoy the ride without having to think about maintenance. CenterTrack achieves that goal."

The new CDX-CT drive is the most robust bicycle belt-drive ever and offers advantages for both consumers and manufacturers. The pulleys are the slimmest ever produced, and this slender profile makes it easier than ever to integrate with internally geared hubs.

The cost of CDX-CT will be announced at Bike Week (Dec 5-8, 2010). Gates will take sample orders from bike makers at Interbike and will take production orders in December. CDX-CT will debut for 2011 on Spot Brand's Acme Bike (displayed in the lobby of the Sands Convention Center at Interbike). The system will appear in widespread use on 2012 models, available retail in late 2011.

"The bike industry has a tradition of constantly innovating to improve the experience of the cycling public, and this is what Gates is doing with CenterTrack," says Frank Scurlock, Global Business Development Manager for Gates Carbon Drive Systems. "Our goal is to make CenterTrack the drivetrain technology of choice for bicyclists who want nothing less than the best."

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