

Referring to “Open letter to Cicli Pinarello SpA” published by Mr. Victor Major

Referring to “Open letter to Cicli Pinarello SpA” published by Mr. Victor Major, CEO of Velocite Tech, on velocite-bikes.com, Cicli Pinarello states the following.

Cicli Pinarello SpA, as a leading company in the cycling sector, obviously takes Intellectual Property issues with the utmost seriousness, Pinarello itself being a patent holder.

While it is true that Mr. Major, through his Taiwanese law firm, wrote to **Pinarello** on July 2016, it is also true that Pinarello promptly answered (on the 4th of August), through its law firm, clearly and unmistakably pointing out that Mr. Major’s communication was lacking essential information since it did not identify which of **Pinarello’s** products were contested nor did it give any explanation as to why such products would allegedly infringe Mr. Major’s patents. Providing this information is not ancillary but mandatory when an infringement is alleged.

Pinarello’s patent attorneys not only asked Mr. Major’s attorneys to clarify his position, but also pointed out that **Pinarello’s** reply was to be expected “not earlier than mid of September 2016, provided that, in the meantime, we will have received the information mentioned above”, information that **Pinarello** was still waiting to receive from Mr. Major when he decided to post his “Open letter”.

In the same letter, **Pinarello’s** patent attorneys also brought to Mr. Major’s attention the fact that bicycles with aerodynamic frames have been on the market for years, even going so far as to provide an example.

Neither the requested information nor any reply was sent by Mr. Major in response to **Pinarello’s** request for clarifications, which have now been provided by Mr. Major in his “Open letter”.

Despite his own fault in not answering **Pinarello’s** request for clarifications, Mr. Major chose to publicly write his “Open letter” and to depict **Pinarello** as a sort of “thief”, who uses a patented design without permission and does not respond to legal letters.

Although **Pinarello** can understand that his behavior may procure Mr. Major a rise in his notoriety, that same behavior is deeply unfair, since Mr. Major himself is perfectly aware that he chose not to discuss the issue with Pinarello.

Cicli Pinarello SpA was, and is, available to discuss the matter with Mr. Major, but **will not tolerate and will take appropriate actions** against any unsupported allegation, explicit or implicit, of being an infringer or a “thief”.