

Tech Briefs

Polar Computer Integrates Personal Training

ALBUQUERQUE, NM—The CS600 with Power enables cyclists to train like professionals with in-depth metrics. Including all the features of the CS400, the CS600 with Power features a new, powerful 2.4 GHz transmission signal for disturbance-free training. The new Power Output Sensor W.I.N.D., which measures power through chain tension, delivers a wealth of data, including power input, pedaling index and left/right pedaling distribution. The CS600 with Power doesn't require calibration or a dedicated hub or crankset, and can be used with any wheelset. Cyclists that have a coach or get their training programs from the Internet can import training plans into the Polar Protrainer 5 software. It then appears on their training calendar. "They can then upload 21 days of training right into the watch, so each day's training parameters like heart rate, power zones and timed intervals are in the watch for each day," said Corey Cornacchio, director of retail sales for Polar. "All the cyclist needs to do is start the workout and they're ready to train that day. When they're done, they can download the data to the computer and analyze it seconds after the workout is completed." The coach can then review the data and make modifications to the program, send it back and it can go right back into the software. "There's no other training system on the market that can do that," Cornacchio added. The CS600 with Power retails for \$699.95, and the CS600 for \$419.95.



FSA Builds Neo Pro for Time-Trial, Tri Crowd

WOODENVILLE, WA—No one has made a dedicated TT (time trial) crankset—that is, until now. FSA's Neo Pro MegaExo was built for the time trial/triathlon crowd. A few one-off, fairing-covered cranks show up each year in the Pro Tour, but none are commercialized, according to FSA new technology manager Ric Hjertberg. For triathlon, there are a few TT rings, but nothing you can call a TT-specific set. "This is an underserved market," Hjertberg said. The wind-deceiving shape of Neo Pro has two major components and a ton of minor ones. The arms have a full-length airfoil cross-section with increased aspect ratio for better wind penetration. "Visually, this means a very flattened aerodynamic shape that concentrates benefits as the arm comes over the top of its rotation," Hjertberg said. This is the zone in which the arm travels faster than the bicycle. Given the exponential increase in wind resistance with speed, this obvious asymmetry of a crankset was worth addressing, Hjertberg said. Such a thin, elongated cross-section wouldn't be stiff enough unless executed with FSA's latest hollow section arm construction. Of equal importance is the clever way Neo Pro arms almost entirely cover the BB cups, reaching all the way to the frame. "Such visual simplification gives fewer excuses to air molecules to become disoriented. Within those hidden cups are ceramic bearings with the hardest and most uniform balls used anywhere in cycling," Hjertberg said. "This latest FSA BB is more than simply free running, it's positively slippery." Suggested retail is \$749.99.



AirFix Combines Co2 and Multi-Tool into One

SANTA CRUZ, CA—The idea was spawned out of curiosity: "How come nobody has ever combined a Co2 inflator with a few tool functions, so you have everything you need? Everyone's eyes just lit up," said Sean Coffey, brand manager at Blackburn. The result was the AirFix. "Everything you need in the palm of your hand" is how Blackburn has advertised the AirFix. A built-in pressure regulator allows users to control the rate of inflation, and a safety switch keeps the AirFix from firing accidentally. It's compatible with a 16-



gram Blackburn or Genuine Innovations threadless cartridge. "The response has been very positive," Coffey said. "But like any good quality, it'll evolve and improve over time as we get more feedback and suggestions." Suggested retail price is \$39.99.