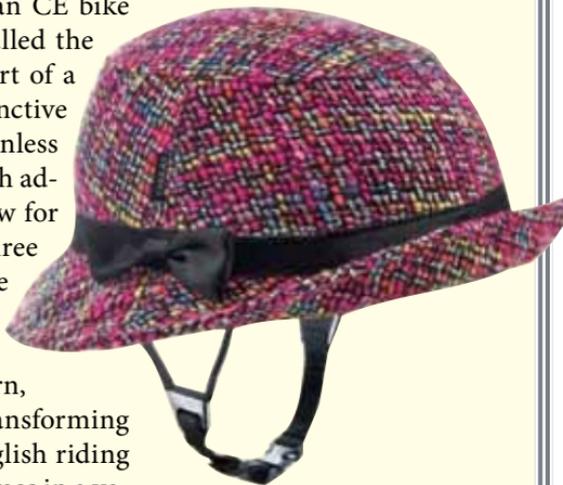


Tech Briefs

Danish Brand Delivers Fashionable Helmets

HELLERUP, Denmark—Yakkay has developed a bike helmet and cover system that focuses more on style than ventilation or ease of sponsorship logo placement. The base helmet meets the European CE bike helmet standard, EN1078, and is called the Smart One. It looks like the top part of a BMX or skater helmet but has distinctive round ear loops and polished stainless steel buckles. The helmet is sized with adhesive backed foam circles that allow for plenty of airflow. Shells come in three sizes, with the smallest size suitable for kids from ages 6 and up. The covers are sized to fit the helmets and come in four basic styles—Luzern, Cambridge, Paris and Tokyo—transforming the look from porkpie casual to English riding wannabe. Each of the basic styles comes in a variety of colors and fabrics. The covers securely attach to the helmet through a variety of tabs. Yakkay helmets took a design award at Eurobike last fall, but so far the company has no U.S. distributor. To see the company's complete lineup of helmets and covers, visit www.yakkay.com.



Companies Collaborate on Touring Front-End

HILLSBOROUGH, NH—Tout Terrain and Maverick have come up with a turnkey solution for extreme touring: a \$990 24-millimeter through-axle upside down front fork, \$460 pannier and \$145 fender system that moves with the wheel. Shortly, dynamo expert Schmidt will have a 24-millimeter through-axle dynamo hub to add lighting to the package. “For off-road touring you need a suspension fork, but none are designed for touring. This system comes with a rack and fender system and when the dynamo hub is ready, you can ride into the night,” said Peter White of Peter White Cycles, which is distributing the product. “The through axle is as necessary to off-road touring as downhill racing. It really stiffens up the front-end,” he added. Because Maverick’s fork is upside down, the top pannier mount is at the bottom of the upper leg, which suspends the pannier and keeps weight off the wheel so it is free to move. Arkel’s panniers for the system contain an internal frame that hangs off the pannier mount, an additional mounting point on the top clamps to the fork leg. White said the fork package works with Tout Terrain’s Silkroad and Panamerica, as well as any suspension-corrected touring or mountain bike.

Velocity: Safety and Coolness Could Coexist

GRAND RAPIDS, MI—Velocity USA is offering a reflective powder coat on a few of its rims called Halo that looks black by day but lights up in the dark when hit by a light source. “We developed the Halo rim with safety in mind, but we prove that safety doesn’t have to be as fashionably obtrusive as spoke reflectors, glow sticks and neon-colored vinyl vests,” said Matthew Dennis, Velocity’s sales manager. “You need a bike rim so you might as well have it work for you, too.” The Halo powder coat is a durable surface that will hold up in any weather condition. The Velocity Halo reflective rims will be offered in Deep V, Fusion, B43, Dyad and Cliffhanger models in both machined and non-machined braking surfaces. The 43-millimeter-deep B43 is not only a great aero rim, but the Halo treatment gives cyclists a huge reflective footprint. Dennis said the training- and touring-oriented Deep V, Fusion and Dyad are perfect for commuters. The Halo rims will retail between \$99 and \$119 per rim depending on model, and they will only be offered in black daytime colors though Dennis hinted that other colors may be possible.