

INTO THE RIDE #59

What's New for 2008 in Crankforwards

by Randy Schlitter



The Crankforward project is continuing to evolve with new models, innovations, and refinements. Several items have found their way into the line-up and are standard on many of the bikes. A couple of new models have also appeared, largely due to the very good suggestions from our customer base. Thanks guys for the feedback; keep it coming!

Seat Clamp

Gone is the stainless steel key, replaced by a special extrusion with the key built in. Made of tough 7075 the key fits with more precision into the slot machined in the seat post. The new clamp is also a few grams lighter and has a clean look.



Headset Adjustor Clamp

This has been in [ShopRANS](#) for a few weeks now and has been a popular item. It allows the headset to be precisely adjusted using common headset wrenches.



The headset adjustor clamp is fitted to all our thread less fork bikes. Zenetik Pros feature the thinner lighter clamp.

Forged Risers

These appear on the Dynamik Duo, Dynamik Pro, and Zenetik Pro. The forged riser is lighter and stronger, and with 4 bolt retention of the handlebars, plus a neat logo. A forging out of the right material can be about the strongest and most elegant way to build such a part. We chose the forged riser for the added strength and accuracy.



Cable Organizer

This almost silly little piece of plastic is a fun little bit that really does help keep the fray of cables organized. It simply clips in over the cable housing and comes in several colors. Buy a bag of them and express the artist in you.



RANS Chain guards

The chain guards are longer, fit tighter, and now feature our logo, adding that custom look.



A New “Size”

All our CF models can be purchased with the seat tube 1.5” shorter and the shorter seat post, that comes marked in centimeters instead of inseam inches. This is offered as a no-cost option and we stock the down-sized versions in the Fusion and Cruz. Other models may require a bit longer lead times. The shorter seat tube has allowed those below 5’ tall to enjoy our CF’s.

All the bikes in the 2008 line up feature one, more, or all of the items described above. In our group of crankforward bikes are mission specific models and some that cross over into many missions, but all are a blast to ride and will surprise you with the level of performance, comfort and fun factor. Even our more laid-back versions like the Fusion or Cruz have performance well beyond what you expect or get in other CF wannabes. Cruisers, commuters, touring, off road, straight road - it is all there in this versatile line up of our ever growing CF’s. Details of specific changes are disclosed below.

FUSION

The Fusion is our most popular Crankforward, and for good reasons: low stance, smooth ride, over-all good performance, and value pricing. Available in three colors for 2008: Corvette Blue, Aqua, and Yellow. It is also a bike that many of the shorter riders love. No spec changes.



CRUZ

Now in a new jazzy Lime Metallic Green, it is really hard to like this color in photos, but it really wows in person. Also a little later in the season we will have a new Metallic Gold color, for those not into this cool green. The spec stayed the same.



STREET

This is a new bike based off the same spec as the Cruz, and using the Citi frame with a front derailleur tube. It comes in that awesome Aqua and is a bike with lots of curves for a unique look and great personality. Also available in Metallic Red.



CITI

The Citi is now a pure 9-speed, with no front derailleur tube on the front. The Citi is available in

Metallic Red with polished aluminum bar and riser, creating a retro look. The missing front derailleur tube commits it to the 9-speed role. This bike has the fun look and performance and handling to surprise.

DYNAMIK

A stunning new blue, the Dynamik is back in full force and spec as in '07. It is a great bike for entry CF and easy to modify into many forms: from off-road, touring, commuter, to semi-serious road machine. Dynamiks also come in Orange, Purple, and Silver, while they last.

DYNAMIK TRAIL

This bike has seen major upgrades for 2008 in the new wheels and fork, making it lighter and more viable for off road. The fork is the same as used on the Dynamik Pro; the wheels are Vultea Starlite 26' and Michelin Country Trail tires. The wheels are sharp looking and feature aero spokes.

DYNAMIK PRO

Now sporting a forged riser, headset adjustor clamp (standard on many CF models), new crank, and that fantastic Mavic tubeless wheel set, the D-Pro is gaining favor among discerning cyclists. The D-Pro has been getting recumbent cyclists back to off-road with little trade-off, and introducing a comfort factor in cycling largely unknown to the build of the off-road cycling public.

DYNAMIK DUO

Forged risers, tough wheels and tires, and new Corvette Red really set off the Dynamik Duo for 2008. This tandem has been a happy discovery for those wanting the comfort of a recumbent but ease of transport of a DF. The performance is surprising in terms of cruise speeds and perhaps the best climbing tandem we build. This tandem is ideal for hilly rides and fast down hills. The hefty disc brakes, plus a canti aux brake, make for confident descents.

ZENETIK

The base line Zenetik is sans the Tour name for 2008, since the bike has more of pure road personality. Features: flat bar for more climb power, new seat clamp, headset adjustor clamp, cable organizer, and chain guard, all of which round out the spec list for this very sweet road CF. Available in either yellow or silver.

ZENETIK ROAD

The Road is a lighter version of the straight Z: lighter wheels, running gear, and rich color choices, either dark Metallic Charcoal or Metallic Red. The Z-Road is a stunning bike at a great price.



ZENETIK PRO

The Zenetik Pro has changed more than a few minds about what a road bike can be. Light (18.5 lbs), fast, a great climber, agile, and with a level of seating comfort comparable to a recumbent, the Z-Pro delivers to the discriminating cyclist a refined level of performance complimented with spec to match. Now available in a unique paint scheme using our PEP process (polish, etch, and powder coat) the Z-Pro is understated refinement.



But perhaps the strongest aspect of the crankforward is the open invite to ride again and the chance for many to keep riding. Bikes that make sense and work with the body should be the norm. The fact that it is not is an opportunity. The change to a lifestyle a bike can bring is simply amazing, and to be part of those transformations is more than an added bonus to our business; it IS our business.

Thanks for the support and the chance to make CF happen. We promise to keep it coming, and until next month, stay safe and stay into the ride!

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