

OPEN LETTER TO BMW.

Norman Hossack

And so the circle is almost closed.

It is every inventor's dream to see his idea, his baby, come of age and to make it to production and the market place. A vindication for all the hard work and tears, that went before.

So here I am, seeing my idea come of age and I am filled with confused and mixed emotions. I am at the same time: -flattered-impressed-relieved-depressed and saddened.

I am flattered that somebody saw, understood and took up the challenge.

I am impressed that such an effort has been put in by BMW. This bike will not go the way of the Bimota or Yamaha alternatives. This bike will win friends for its handling and feed back, I can testify to that. A new generation of riders will join the club. This bike will win.

I am relieved at no longer being the only soul out there carrying the banner of the virtues of my wish-bone suspension. It has been a heavy burden to carry on my own, in the light of all the doubters.

I am depressed at Britain for its lack of technical "savvy". Everywhere I presented my idea in Britain, and there were many places, my invention was not judged on its technical merit but on the quality of the shoes I was wearing. The opposite was the case in Germany, were the people I met were honest, respectful and immediately saw the value of what I presented. Germany took the idea to heart while in Britain apathy reigned.

I am saddened that I was not part of this BMW development. Though I had a well thought out strategy for the future developments of the idea, I never had the funding to see any of it to a conclusion. I would have loved to try different geometries, weight distributions and tyres etc. and to try out some of the many wilder directions the idea led me. After all, I couldn't do the R&D so I have had to content myself with just thinking about it for the last quarter century.

So in conclusion. Your new BMW could be the biggest step forward in motorcycle chassis design in years. Let the revolution begin. Just make sure you get your bit right.... I know my bit will work just fine!

Norman Hossack.

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