

Trip Teq "Heeler" Sidecar Imported to North America By R & T Motorrad



Every once in a while we are privileged enough to see a product come on the market that we know will be a hit. Last summer Rita and I made a long awaited trip to Europe. I had been telling her tales of the way of life and scenery there since we met in the fall of 1992. After 18 years of stories I finally opened my wallet and blew the moths out of it.

During our 21-day tour we planned a stop at Trip Teq Sidecars in Hengelo, Netherlands. We made arrangements with Goos Bos of Motoport Hengelo to arrive on Monday after our weekend in England. Monday morning we arrived in Rotterdam on the P&O ferry from Hull. 200 km later we arrived at Goos' shop. I was pleasantly surprised to see that he had 17 sidecar rigs in the shop. Another surprise was meeting Kenny McLennan who is the dealer for Scotland. He was there to install his Heeler Demo onto his BMW R1150 GS. His would be the first left hand mounted Heeler made. We could tell from the start of this visit that things are happening fast at Trip Teq.

The sidecar was designed to compete with the Velorex but with the concept of being a bolt on unit for the BMW Oil heads, 4 Valves and Hex Heads. This is not to say it cannot be adapted to other bikes. The Velorex for example can be mounted to these larger bikes but was not designed specifically for these weight loads.

Goos wanted a sidecar that his dealers could work with and be able to modify to the needs of their customers.

The Heeler WZ is the basic model from Trip Teq and comes with a TUV approval.

The Heeler UN has the universal mount frame that can be adapted by dealers and installers to mount on other brands and models of bikes.

The Heeler is quickly developing a following of enthusiastic dealers and owners.

The body of the Heeler is made from ABS plastic, which makes it easy to repair and modify. The flip open front and trunk option was designed and fabricated by Joy Tek of Germany (This will

be the "Heeler SE" in North America). They are one of the leaders in Heeler "dealer modifications".

The "Bos" model by Dedome is a re-worked Heeler with a different frame and brake design to meet the rules for France.

Joy Tek also makes a twin jet fighter style seating arrangement so you can take two kids with you.

The first modification from the Trip Teq Importer in North America, R & T Motorrad in Canada will be the "Heeler LX" which will have a custom finished interior. This is just the beginning for the Heeler.

In Europe it seems common for sidecar manufacturers to sell their sidecar components to other dealers where they undergo mild to wild modifications.

Goos told us he encourages his dealers to use the "Heeler" and "Trip Teq" name-tags in order to help build the following for these rigs.

Companies like Watsonian-Squire (100 years) and Velorex (37+ years) have built their names into common knowledge in the motorcycle world. This is the vision Goos has for the Heeler.

Here at R & T Motorrad, we are planning to bring the Heeler sidecar to the riders of North America in the summer of 2011.

www.sidecarcanada.com

Remember to "Keep the Chair in the Air".

Tom "Porkchopp" O'Leary

