



Clean Week 2020 featured MEP RIDE, E Bike and E Scooter European election

Joel Smets tested electric motor cross vehicle

From May 5th till May 8th Zolder was THE ecological heart of European mobility. Large and smaller “marques” will present their greenest cars and two-wheelers. MEP Riders gathered in Zolder on Thursday and the European e-Bike and e-Scooter of the Year were elected. The perfect opportunity for all those interested in discovering where we stand today in clean mobility and to have a chance to admire ecological super technology from the front row.

This year’s “Clean Week 2020” was celebrating its second full edition and the organisers would like to carry this event on till 2020. After this year’s election of Clean Car of the Year – won by the Mitsubishi iMiev and the Lexus CT200H – for the first time as part of the Clean Week, a winner was also chosen in the category E-Bike, the E-Scooter, the E-Bicycle and the E-Quadricycle. Everyone is full of the electric car, but also more and more alternatives are arriving on the scene for the two-wheelers.

“This inspired us in the first place to link an election of the European e-bike of the year to the Clean Week” explains Mr. Thierry Deflandre, Circuit Zolder’s General Manager. “European, because lots of e-bikes are in full development or in the process of being launched, and therefore we had to fall back on to the European home offices.”

We are not only talking about the meanwhile well known electrical bikes here. A jury of thirteen specialised European motor journalists gathered over the past few days for extensive testing of not only electrical driven scooters (Vectric, IO, E-Max, Goves, Dumco, Noveco, Emco, Solex, Symm) but they also put off-road motorcycles (QVR and Zero) and speed motorcycles such as Zero and Mavizen on the grill.

“With more or less 30 e-motorcycles we reached a first goal, which was getting the different brands interested in this organisation.”, continues Deflandre. “However, e-bikes are still in the development phase and some brands were not yet ready for the confrontation with what is presently available on the market. That’s why we are convinced that towards 2012 we will be able to attract more candidates, because also the two-wheelers’ future will be more and more oriented towards electrical – and thus ecologically powered vehicles.

The prizes in the European E Bike/E-Scooter election finally went to the Zero S (motorbike), to the QVR VR Cross (off-road), the Vectrix VX2 (scooter – 25 kms/h), the Govecs Go! 2.4 (scooter – 45 kms/h) and last but not least to the Vectrix VX1 (+ 45 kms/h).

Joël Smets, former five times world-champion, tested an electrical off-road. The great champion drove the Zero MX and the QVR VR Cross, two of the most important names in off-road and place of action was the MX track on the Zolder race circuit.

The Federation of European Motorcyclists Associations, FEMA, is co-chairing the first edition of the European eBike and eScooter of the Year. Aline Delhaye, General Secretary, explains why motorcycle and scooter users support alternative-energy powered two wheelers:





“Whenever electric or hydrogen-powered vehicles are mentioned, professionals and members of the public always picture a car. But no-emission two-wheelers hold as much promise as cars, if not more as:

- they require less material and energy to manufacture, and less energy for everyday use;*
- they congest neither roads nor parking spots;*
- they hardly damage the road surface;*
- recycling costs and residual waste is much lower than all other motorized transport mean;*
- and not the least, everybody is able to afford an electric motorcycle or scooter,*

The European eBike and eScooter of the Year contest is definitely an opportunity to show a proof of concept, and encourage the public sector to provide support.”

And more two-wheelers that came to Zolder: Febiac and the *Motor Cycle Council* has organised the “Day of the Motor Cycle” on May 8th. On the programme there were motor cycle initiations, test drives with new models, stunt shows, and so on.

MEP RIDE

On May 5 the MEP Ride, the motorcycle ride for Members of the European Parliament, brought politicians, diplomats and civil servants from the EU institutions to Clean Week 2020. Organised by the Federation of European Motorcyclists’ Associations and under the patronage of the four MEPs Frieda Brepoels, Bernd Lange, Toine Manders and Wim van de Camp, with over 100 participants on motorcycles the MEP Ride departed from the European Parliament in Brussels. Many motorcycles had been provided by the manufacturers of ACEM, like the Harley Davidson XR1200X which was piloted by the Australian Ambassador Brendan Nelson.

Guided by the Belgian Federal Police and Road Captains of MAG Belgium the Ride arrived safely at Circuit Zolder to inaugurate Clean Week 2020. The latest motorcycles and scooters, including most electric models currently available, awaited the European decision makers for testing. British MEP Emma McClarkin was doing very well on an electric scooter while her colleague Wim van de Camp from the Netherlands, followed by two heads of unit of the European Commission, took advantage and entered the race track on their electric motorcycles.

On a cross track former Motocross World Champion Joël Smets showed MEPs how to handle electric off road motorcycles. It was again Mr. van de Camp who took the initiative and went off-road as well. During dinner the eBike of the Year was announced. The decision had been taken the same day in Zolder by a jury comprised of the elite of Europe’s motorcycle journalists.

Pictures of the event will be available soon www.mep-ride.eu

Contact:

Federation of European Motorcyclists Associations
Tel: +3227369047
www.fema-online.eu

Aline Delhaye, General Secretary
a.delhaye@fema-online.eu
Mobile: +32495501555

Philip Vogt, Campaigns and Communications Officer
p.vogt@fema-online.eu
Mobile: +32485146360





Day of the Motorcycle

Stijn Vancuyck | advisor
svc@febiac.be | +32 2 778 64 48 | +2 496 51 21 77

CLEAN WEEK 2020

Debby Wilmsen | debby@dpccommunications.be | +32 498 52 24 79
Frederic De Gezelle | e: frederic@dpccommunications.be | +32 473 97 98 13

