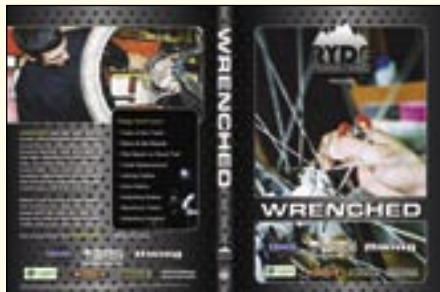


Tech Briefs

DVD Teaches Mechanical, Bike Repair Skills

GOLDEN, CO—So you are out riding, and your headset gets so loose, steering becomes dangerous. No worries, just whip out your cell phone and log on to the “Wrenched” Web site and watch a short video that walks you through the repair. “We are not quite there, but should be shortly,” said Shawn Brunner, whose video-based bicycle repair DVD, “Wrenched,” is just hitting the market. “It’s so much better to see



someone do something and then do it yourself than to read about it and have to do it,” Brunner said. “Wrenched” covers a broad range of mechanical skills that apply to road, mountain and comfort/hybrid bikes. Brunner, who is Yeti Cycles’ assistant operations and assembly coordinator, taught maintenance classes to consumers for many years at Roswell Bicycles in Atlanta, Georgia. He pooled all that experience in “Wrenched.” “I identify parts on a bike and their function so a person can get the service they need,” he said. The DVD covers bike repair topics such as tool selection, flat tire repair, better shifting techniques, installing bar tape and replacing handlebar grips, lubing and brake shoe replacement. Brunner is planning a series of titles on more specialized topics like suspension tuning and rebuilding. Video Action Sports, Quality Bicycle Products, Hawley, J&B Importers, BTI, Pedro’s and Amazon distribute the DVD, which retails for \$30. It’s also available at www.roswellbicycles.com.

Cy Fi Speakers Let Riders Hear Traffic, Music

LOS ANGELES, CA—Is it safe riding with ear buds that cut out traffic noise? That’s a question Jeff Lotman answers with a confident no. But riders shouldn’t have to give up music to remain safe, which is why Lotman developed Cy Fi, a compact set of handlebar-mounted stereo speakers that receive streaming music wirelessly



from an iPod or iPod Nano. Slightly larger than a deck of cards and weighing less than 3 ounces, the powered speakers mount on top of a stem or handlebar and receive their signal from Cy Fi’s wireless transmitter, which mounts to an iPod dock connector. The speakers are rechargeable and provide about six hours of music. Toggles on the speakers allow cyclists to control the track, volume

and playlist settings on their iPod while keeping their hands on the bars. And its 30-foot range allows up to four speakers to play off of one iPod—a feature for riders who think their buddies would ride better listening to their music. Cy Fi is an ideal travel speaker as well. The package, including speaker, speaker charger, stem or handlebar mount and wireless transmitter, sells for \$160 and will be available in a few months. For more information, visit www.mycyfi.com.

Vermarc Pants Clear Muddy Shoes With Ease

BOULDER, CO—When Euro ’cross riders wait at the starting line, many wear Vermarc warm-up pants. The full-length pants have a brushed interior to fight the blustery winds of a wet Belgium winter, but even better, the full-length zipper means users can unzip the pants completely without having to pull muddy shoes through the legs. “In Belgium it is mostly pros doing ’cross races, very few amateurs compete. So there is no general cycling market for these pants. But for guys in the Rockies or the Northeast, these are ideal for waiting around for the start,” said Brian Worthy, Vermarc USA’s president. Since unveiling the pants at Interbike, Worthy said sales have taken off and he is looking to bring more of Vermarc’s special clothing to the North American market. Vermarc clothes are distributed by Quality Bicycle Products.