

## SportVue MC2

**H**EADS UP DISPLAYS (HUD) are nothing new to the automotive field, but SportVue's version for motorcycles is revolutionary. Their latest display includes readouts for speed, gear, rpm, as well as radar detector warnings.

SportVue's MC2 consists of a Base Unit, a HUD that attaches to your helmet and a wiring loom. The mounting kits are application specific and complete with everything a rider needs for their particular bike. Three connections are required: One wire attaches to the engine's rpm sensor with a minimally-invasive "T" connector. A second runs to a swingarm bracket to track rear wheel rotation for the speed indicator. A final wire accepts a radar detector (the MC2 supports Escort, Valentine, Bel Pro and Cobra radar detectors). In total, I spent several hours wiring the bike and ensuring the cable routing was unobtrusive.

The next step is to mate the HUD to a helmet shield. Separate mounts are included to facilitate for either left- or right-eye dominant riders. Once mounted and powered up with the included two AA batteries, a wireless connection can be established. My first



base unit failed, but a replacement quickly established a connection with the HUD. Next, the rider must configure the unit, which involves riding the bike so that the MC2 computer can learn the bike's gearing. A separate input for speed calculations stores the circumference of the rear wheel.

On the road, the MC2 is a revelation. While the display indicates the gear and rpm (using a bar graph), the most useful feature is the speed. The LED readout was easy to view, thanks to an angle-adjustable display and a three-way brightness setting. More importantly, the HUD did not impede my forward vision and was far less distracting than looking down at my bike's instrumentation. Furthermore, the accuracy of the MC2's speed calibration makes it more accurate than most speedometers. The final bonus was that the radar warning from my Valentine One was instantly displayed, precluding the need to listen to or watch the readout of my radar detector. The MC2 is currently priced at \$299.

—LT Snyder

**Motion Research—1175 Eastlake Ave. E.; Seattle, WA 98109; (206) 352-1771; Fax: (206) 352-1772; www.sportvue.com**

## J-B STIK

**L**IKE THE JUSTLY famous J-B Weld steel-filled epoxy, this product comes in two-parts, but instead of two tubes, one is wrapped around the other (imagine a big Tootsie Roll with a smelly filling) and comes in a tidy little plastic tube. You simply cut off a hunk, knead the two together, then (literally) press the mixture into service.

In an incredibly serendipitous combination of foresight and bad luck, I had picked up a tube of J-B Stik on a whim, and stuck it in my off-road fanny pack, thinking it might come in handy. Only two rides later, a bike in our group went down and busted a thumb-sized hole in its clutch cover. Ride over? Hardly. With the cover removed, a well-kneaded wad of J-B Stik was pushed into the gaping wound and pressed flat from both sides. Even though the surfaces were oily, and we had no way of cleaning them or our hands, the putty adhered right through the oil. Yet what little mixing residue it left on our skin wiped right off. Within just a few minutes



the repair was quite hard to the touch, allowing prompt reassembly and resumption of our ride.

Without this pocket-sized miracle, the ride would have been over, at least for the guy with the busted case. And he'd then have to find a way to drag the bike out of the woods—no fun at all.

This stuff won't rust, is non-toxic, and once hard, it can be cut or machined just like steel. Let's see... five bucks and a few inches of storage space, versus towing charges and hours or days of frustration—not the hardest choice to make.

Given its small size, cheap price (\$4.50-\$5.00 for a 2 oz. tube), and the huge number of possible emergency applications we can imagine, we've stuck a J-B Stik in every fanny pack and tank bag we've got.

—Mark Barnes

**J-B Weld Company—P.O.Box 483, Sulphur Springs, TX 75483; (800) 529-3530; www.jbweld.net**



"Although I appreciate that you love your bike, marrying it is out of the question."

## Next Month

- ◆ Kawasaki's new Ninja 650R
- ◆ Ducati's Multistrada 620
- ◆ Conditioning Slippery New Tires
- ◆ Wheel Bearing R&R

**Motorcycle  
Consumer NEWS**

37-02

PERIODICALS MAIL