

# SHOP WINDOW

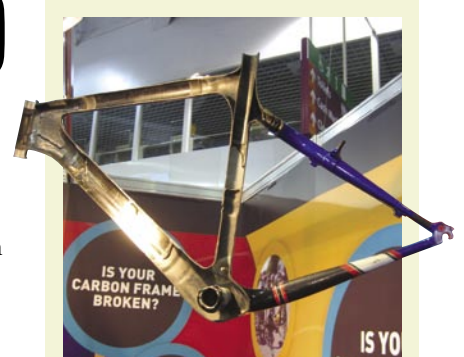
PRODUCT NEWS FROM THE CYCLING WORLD

## The Cycle Show 2010

☀ This year's Cycle Show was its last at Earl's Court in London: it moves to Birmingham's NEC next autumn. One of its previous homes was Excel on the outskirts of London, and a new, smaller event – the London Bike Show – takes place there from 13th-16th January, running alongside the Boat Show. For more on both shows, see [cycleshows.co.uk](http://cycleshows.co.uk) and [thelondonbikeshow.co.uk](http://thelondonbikeshow.co.uk).

But what of this year's Cycle Show? There was a definite swing towards road bikes, particularly sportif bikes, with off-road bikes – whose sales are flatter – in a minority. It being London, fixed-wheel bikes were much in evidence, and there were lots of electric assist bikes too.

Here are some of the things that caught the editor's eye.



### CARBON FRAME REPAIR

☀ With more and more carbon fibre bikes on the market, there are inevitably more broken ones – enough now to support a business that repairs them. Carbon Repair Technology mend even snapped frames by (usually) wrapping and reinforcing them with more carbon fibre. It adds a bit of weight and isn't seamless but it's pretty neat. [carbonrepair.com](http://carbonrepair.com)



### Infinite variety

☀ St John Street Cycles were showing the first off-the-peg bike we've seen with the NuVinci N360 continuously variable transmission – a hub gear with no steps and a 350% range. The hub is heavy and doubtless not as efficient as some, but gear shifting is slick and intuitive. One for newbie commuters? [fallbrooktech.com](http://fallbrooktech.com) & [sjscycles.com](http://sjscycles.com)



### Space-saving tandems

☀ The Folding Tandem LS from Germany company Berndts packs down 106x80x20cm, thanks to 20in wheels, a frame hinge and a rear wheel that tucks under. That tuck-under 20in wheel features on Berndts' more established Folding Tandem too, shortening the bike just enough to fit a solo bike space on a train. [berndts.de](http://berndts.de)

### Specialized go large – again

☀ After blowing hot and cold on 29er MTBs in the UK, Specialized are now bringing in some big-wheeled options from their Epic and Stumpjumper ranges... for the deep-pocketed cross-country mile-eater. [specialized.com](http://specialized.com)

### Bamboo base layer

☀ Base layers aren't all about Merino wool. Polaris were showing a Bamboo Tec top that uses 'natutec fibre', made from 'bamboo charcoal fibres'. It feels comfortable and Polaris say it will absorb sweat without getting smelly. At £40, it's not silly expensive either. [polaris-apparel.co.uk](http://polaris-apparel.co.uk)



### SPORTIF SIDE EFFECTS

☀ One benefit of the explosion of interest in sportif bikes – i.e. road bikes that aren't for racing – is that forward-thinking firms like Condor are offering road bikes with clearance and fittings for practical essentials like mudguards and a lightweight rack. Good news for club riding, winter training, and audax, as well as wet sportifs. [condorcycles.com](http://condorcycles.com)



### Brooks organic

☀ Brooks Select saddles are aimed at high-mileage cyclists who want more durable leather that isn't brick hard. To get it they've sourced leather from cows reared on organic forms. [brooksengland.com](http://brooksengland.com)