



Press Release

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Gates Carbon Drive™ System Powers Bikers to Victory in Epic Conditions

Innovative belt drive technology helps Oskar Blues/Spot Brand Bikes Team belt out a win while the competition crumbles.

Fruita, Colorado -- In conditions that destroyed equipment, shredded even seasoned racers and caused a late-race course change at the recent 5th annual 18 Hours of Fruita bike race at Highline Lake in Fruita, Colorado, the Oskar Blues Belt Busta's team of Scott Hicar, Dale Katechis, Troy Mandery and Jeremy Rudolph took the overall victory thanks to the consistent performance and mud-shedding capabilities of their Gates Carbon Drive™-equipped Spot Brand single speeds.

With little more than two hours left in the race that had started under clear and cool skies at midnight on Sunday April 26, the 85 competing teams were thrown a curveball in the form of a late spring storm that turned the dusty, rolling, six-mile course into a nearly unrideable patch of goo. Aided by the spring rain, the area's infamous bentonite clay changed from a fine white powder into a sticky mud of peanut butter consistency that ripped off derailleurs, gummed up traditional chains and coated wheels with pounds of muck.



Thanks to the foul weather performance of their carbon-reinforced, polyurethane Gates belt drive as well as Gates chainrings and rear sprockets with patented Mud Ports™, the Oskar Blues team was able to click off consistently fast laps while their competitors struggled to complete a lap in two or three times their normal rate. "There were no worse conditions that I've ever ridden in," said 42 year-old Oskar Blue's rider Hicar. "The Gates Carbon Drive system just pounded right through it, allowing our guys to keep riding fast while everyone else was literally just trying to survive!"

To learn more about Carbon Drive systems, visit www.carbondrivesystems.com.

The mud-shedding design of Gates Carbon Drive™ system includes a chainring with patented Mud Ports™ that keep the drive clean and fully functional even in conditions that tear traditional bicycle drivetrains to pieces.

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