

First American-made motorcycle to win an Isle of Man TT race in 98 years

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For the past 102 years, the Isle of Man TT motorcycle Grand Prix has been dominated by European and Japanese made motorcycles. The last American motorcycle manufacturer to win this historic race was the Indian Motorcycle Company in 1911. Indian Motorcycles shipped their machines from the other side of the pond to be piloted by UK riders familiar with the course. In a similar fashion to these pioneering motorcycle companies of the day, team Electric Motorsport (Oakland, California) claimed an open class victory in the world's first zero carbon Grand Prix with the help of seasoned local rider Chris Heath. At this event, the American company launched their new brand of electric motorcycles badged "Native" with a logo reminiscent of early twentieth century graphic styles.

The TTXGP is a new class within the prestigious Isle of Man road race, designed to spur advancements in clean propulsion technologies. Rules of the race do not allow the use of combustion engines, or carbon-based fuels. The winning Electric Motorsport machine

known as the "Native TTXGP" completed the 37.73 mile Snaefell mountain course in 34m 17s at an average speed of 66.022 mph. The Native TTXGP electric motorcycle, boasts a 48 bhp AC drive system powered by a 6.5 kWh Lithium Iron Phosphate battery pack. Team Electric Motorsport clinched the first place victory, despite having the smallest battery pack of all competing machines. When asked how they accomplished such a feat, team owner Todd Kollin explains that it had everything to do with the overall efficiency of their vehicle, support team and rider. The Native TTXGP was the only open class vehicle utilizing regenerative braking, to recover energy that would otherwise be lost to heat.

In accordance to the rules of the TTXGP, the open class winning motorcycle must be sold at the end of the race for a pre-set value of 20,000 BPS. The Isle of Man government purchased this historic TT winning vehicle, to promote the Electric Grand Prix and to show their commitment toward clean energy technologies.

