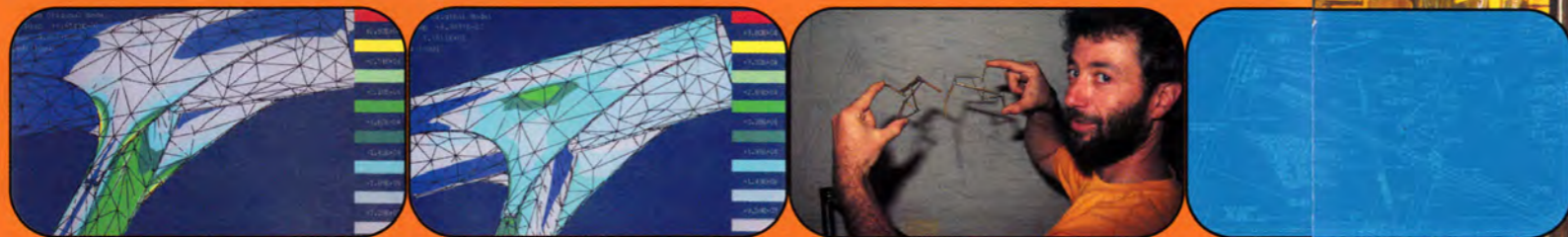


John Castellano



A fondness for finite element analysis among other silly habits helps make JC a superstar in the suspension galaxy.

We almost didn't get this catalog done in time, and it's all John Castellano's fault. We've been spending so much time cruising around on our Castellano-designed, Ibis-built bikes, we barely had enough time to write the copy (and it shows, right?).

We kept figuring we'd take a day off from riding and do it then, but it never happened. The day-off-from-riding part. No matter how brutal the trails were or how long we spent in the saddle, we always felt fresh enough to go out again the very next day. And it was all because of John's wondrous way with full suspension bikes. Riding one of his designs is just too much fun.

John's big brain is well known to us. Several years ago, he introduced the ground-breaking Sweet Spot™ full suspension design, and Ibis was the first to bring it to market. While other designers were working on bikes that resembled the kids' game Mousetrap, John created a simple yet elegant solution that virtually eliminates bobbing and keeps the suspension active. With one brilliantly-placed pivot, the Ibis Szazbo did away with levers and linkages and bars and gears and rubber bands and little plastic mice. And it made riding so much more enjoyable.

About two years ago, John dropped by to see if we'd be interested in building a pivotless (yes, pivotless) dual suspension bike with 5" of rear wheel travel. Cool. Count us in.

A lot of "experts" didn't think it could be produced. Or, if it could be produced, it couldn't be effective. Oh, how wrong they were. We probably shouldn't be so hard on the skeptics. Nothing like the Ibis BowTi had ever been created before. But now that it's received rave reviews from the mags and hardcore riders from all over the world, we think we've shown that we can walk the walk. Or walk the talk. Or talk the walk. Or however the hell that saying goes. Like our Szazbo, the BowTi features a Sweet Spot™ unified design, but without a pivot. Instead, it relies on the inherent resilience and durability of titanium to provide a super cushy ride. No pivot means no maintenance, and lighter weight. At about 5 pounds for the frame with rear shock, the BowTi can be easily built up into a sub-24 pound full suspension bike.

The **BowTi™** features a custom designed tubeset of Ti-3Al/2.5V manufactured to our specifications by Ancotech. The frame "pivots" around the point where the down tube and the bow-stays cross. Because this virtual pivot is located at the Sweet Spot you get 5" of plush travel without bobbing when sitting, standing or sprinting. And while the BowTi is incredibly compliant vertically, it has the same lateral stiffness and bottom bracket stability as our super stiff Titanium Mojo.

And it's durable too. Just like metal springs, or the leafsprings in your truck, the BowTi's flexing members will hold up ride after ride.

Technically speaking, the BowTi distributes bump energy along the entire 30" swingarm formed by the bow-stays. The tubes are made of low modulus (springy) titanium that allows lots of bending and energy absorption, which means less fatigue for the frame, and, of course, less fatigue for the rider. In dude speak, that means the BowTi is totally buff. In Ibis speak that means the BowTi is the most evolved full suspension bike on the planet. And you should be riding one.

And now we've reached the section of the copy where we're supposed to wrap everything up in a neat little bundle and plead with you to buy a BowTi, but damn if we can stay off our bikes that long. So consider it done. Later.



Sure, we heard the snickers. But for once in our lives, we elected to take the high road. And we ignored all those "experts" who doubted that we would ever deliver a pivotless (yes, pivotless) dual suspension bike with 5" of rear wheel travel. Of course, we can only be polite for so long, and it has been a whole year, so

BowTi