



## News Release

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*Edinburgh January 28 2009*

### **VECTRIX ELECTRIC BIKES SET TO STUN SCOTTISH POLITICIANS ON THEIR DOORSTEP**

The world's leading manufacturer of electric motorcycles has thrown down a friendly gauntlet to Members of the Scottish Parliament and the general public to come and try the extraordinary zero-emission<sup>1</sup> bikes for themselves.

Vectrix Scotland, importers of the US-based Vectrix Electrics produced motorcycles, will host a test-it-yourself day which is open to the public as well as politicians on Wednesday January 28 starting at 10.00am outside the front door of the Scottish Parliament in the heart of Edinburgh.

Gary Stagg of Knockhill Race Circuit near Glasgow who is the Vectrix importer for Scotland says the message on new transport technologies is getting through.

"These bikes completely fracture any pre-conceived ideas about electric transport being slow and short-range," says Mr Stagg. "We are keen for our political representatives and influencers to understand that this technology delivers rapid, clean, comfortable and attractively designed commuter transport which has a wealth of applications also in the public sector."

Patrick Harvey, Glasgow-based Green Party MSP, is sponsoring the Vectrix presence.

Vectrix Electrics produces two electric motorcycles, the VX-1 and VX-1E and is preparing to launch a smaller VX-2 model in the spring. A VX-1 and a VX-2 prototype will be available on Wednesday.

"These bikes are the ideal alternative to petrol-driven commuter bikes and are designed particularly with city and out-of-town journeys in mind, says Mr Stagg. "Vectrix bikes have exhilarating performance, state-of-the-art design and technology but with remarkably low running costs. These low running costs make them ideally suited to public sector use."

"They are already in service with two Scottish police forces, Strathclyde and Lothian & Borders, including right here in the Scottish Parliament where one is in use to patrol the complex. In England a fleet has been in service with the AA for the past year and they are becoming increasingly recognised as an ideal local authority tool with an operating cost of less than 1p a mile," he says.

The top-of-the range model (VX-1) can cruise at 60 miles an hour, reaching that speed in less than 9 seconds, and qualifies as a powerful Maxi-scooter. The economy model (VX-1E) uses a different battery technology, resulting in slightly reduced performance but a significantly reduced purchase price.

Both share the same attractive DNA: no emissions at the point of operation, minimal running costs, regenerative braking, which allows the battery to be recharged up to 12% just by regular-use braking, a reverse gear for ease of parking and manoeuvring and on-board recharger to make plug-in at charge-up time easy.

## **Ends**

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<sup>1</sup> Zero emission at point of operation

## **PRESS NOTICE: PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

**1.00pm January 28 2009, Scottish Parliament Building, Holyrood, Edinburgh.**

### **Editors' notes:**

Engineered as an eco-friendly, powerful alternative for commuting and recreational needs, the VX-1:

- Reaches top speed of 60mph (100kph) and offers acceleration from 0-50mph (0-80kph) in 6.8 seconds.
- Has an average range of 30-55 miles (50-88 kilometres) on a single charge.
- Offers minimal maintenance, simple operation and low noise.
- Features regenerative power through braking, reverse gear for ease of parking in tight spaces and on-board charger for convenient plug-in battery recharging.
- Features sophisticated design efficiencies including a high-efficiency gearbox and drive train, aluminium construction for weight reduction and long life and aerodynamic styling to reduce drag.
- Weighs 234kg, has a 152cm wheelbase and 76cm seat height, seats two comfortably.
- Is extremely economical, running at just one cent per mile and the equivalent of 357 miles per gallon (US) (0.66 litres per 100km), compared with 14 mpg (17.2 litres per 100km) for a leading SUV and 46 mpg (5.1 litres per 100km) for a leading hybrid car. Leading petrol-powered motorcycles and scooters range from 52 to 87 mpg (4.5 – 2.7 litres per 100km).

**Two New Models Planned** Vectrix plans to introduce two additional models in Spring/Summer 2009, the VX-1E and VX-2. The VX-1E uses the same platform and drive train as the VX-1, but features a lower price point, a more urban commuter driver profile with slightly less acceleration and top speed. The VX-2 will be a smaller and more compact electric equivalent of a 50cc internal combustion engine (ICE) bike and use both U.S. and European designs. The company expects to add additional power profiles to this product up to the electric equivalent of a 150cc ICE motorbike.

**About Vectrix Corporation** Vectrix Corporation was formed in 1996 to develop and commercialise zero emission vehicle platform technologies focused on two-wheel applications. The single focus of Vectrix has been to provide clean, efficient, reliable and affordable urban transportation. Vectrix Corporation has headquarters in Middletown, R.I., engineering and test facilities in New Bedford, Mass., sales offices in the UK and production facilities in Wroclaw, Poland.