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Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure

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Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416585)

by **Flash 412 (CO)** on August 10th, 2008, 7:49 am

<http://www.advrider.com/forums/showpost ... stcount=80>

(<http://www.advrider.com/forums/showpost.php?p=7589434&postcount=80>)

<http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/im ... wheel1.jpg>

(<http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/images/BrokenBike/wheel1.jpg>)

<http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/im ... wheel2.jpg>

(<http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/images/BrokenBike/wheel2.jpg>)

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416588)

by **dbtcycle** on August 10th, 2008, 7:58 am

HOLY F*CK!!!

I'm no expert by far, but the close ups of the pieces that came off the forks show some serious pitting. Could that be corrosion, or were the forks completely botched when they were cast (I'm assuming they were cast). It looks like cheap pot metal. WTF???????

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416590)

by **bigb** on August 10th, 2008, 8:24 am

Made in China?

Time to quit using BMW parts?

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416591)

by **damalden** on August 10th, 2008, 8:34 am

time to xray your forks? holy crap, she wasn't going over sweet jumps or nothing!

was hers a 2000?

holy shitshocker it's an 02 too!

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416593)

by **damalden** on August 10th, 2008, 8:42 am

*bigb wrote:*Made in China?

Time to quit using BMW parts?

Showa forks

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416607)

by **haakon** on August 10th, 2008, 10:02 am

Ill start walking!! Im both mad and p..d off !!

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416608)

by **Dr. Mordo** on August 10th, 2008, 10:18 am

Holy crap. So she was using Showa forks? That is scary stuff.

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416610)

by **haakon** on August 10th, 2008, 10:29 am

Dont ALL the GS`s have Showas?? Mine does

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416612)

by **rageabout** on August 10th, 2008, 10:31 am

Thanks for posting flash. Looks like a occasional inspection of the forks for stress fractures is in order.

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416615)

by **grandevox** on August 10th, 2008, 10:52 am

That's pretty bad - but in reality in the "before" photo things didn't look right on the forks at all. I thought I could see some hairline cracking (IN THE PHOTO!) before the forks broke. I could also see some intergranular corrosion bubbling up under the paint as well. These sliders tell a story, I just don't know what it is-but the parts looked sick. We don't really know the entire story here, for all we know the fork sliders could have been involved in a front end collision and re-used rather than having been scrapped-or immersed in salt water for an extended time - is the bike from New Orleans? I am not going to park my F-650 because of this, but I will inspect the fork sliders more carefully in the future.

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416623)

by **Bobcatou** on August 10th, 2008, 1:13 pm

Anyone ever seen a bulletin they give to shops about this. I plan to start looking for hairline cracks myself now.

bc

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416624)

by **i_yeti** on August 10th, 2008, 2:00 pm

Why did she have a photo of the wheel one day before the crash? Was there already a developing problem?

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416626)

by **Bobcatou** on August 10th, 2008, 2:42 pm

Look how the damage is in the same spot on each fork in this picture

[http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/im ... forks1.jpg](http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/im...forks1.jpg)

(<http://red-baroness.net/Motorcycling/images/BrokenBike/forks1.jpg>)

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416631)

by **reynold6** on August 10th, 2008, 3:45 pm

I'm not usually in favor of product liability lawsuits but if BMW knew there was a problem and chose not to notify customers, I would try to hammer them in court. This is scary! I replaced one lower fork leg with a used one and now I'm worried that it might have come off of a 2000 model. Yikes!

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Re: Catastrophic F650GS Fork Failure (#p416634)

by **careyab** on August 10th, 2008, 3:59 pm

But she had a big accident before, bike triple flipped:

http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=I_b8VBfEmr0

(http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=I_b8VBfEmr0)

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