

Mobile Motorcycle Repairs

Expert motorcycle service to you
Repairs and servicing. Newcastle
AU
www.fatcrank.com

New BMW? save \$1,000's

Massive savings for all BMW
buyers! BMW fleet discounts right
here.
www.privatefleet.com.au/bmw

New and Used BMWs

With Thousands Of New & Used
Cars, carsguide.com.au is Too Big
to Miss
www.carsguide.com.au

ST1300 Racks & I

Honda ST1300 Raci
Designed to fit 03 -
www.premiercyclea

- [NEWS](#)
- [SPORT](#)
- [MOTORCYCLE REVIEWS](#)
- [MOTORCYCLES FOR SALE](#)
- [SHOPPING](#)
- [COMPARE INSURANCE](#)
- [FIND DEALERS & SERVICES](#)
- [ADVICE](#)
- [COMMUNITY](#)

MOTORCYCLE NEWS

Friday, 31 Oct

[All news](#)

[Readers' news](#)

[Video](#)

[New bikes](#)

[Product news & reviews](#)

[Bike tests](#)

[Events](#)

[Consumer news](#)

[Politics & the law](#)

[Specials & customs](#)

[Magazines](#)

Find Dealers & Services

- [Accessories](#) | [Bike Services](#) | [Breakers](#) | [Clothing](#) | [Dealers](#) | [Events & Experiences](#) | [Finance](#) | [Insurance](#) | [Parts](#) | [Training](#) | [Travel & Touring](#) | [Tuning & Performance](#) |

Anybody who rides an early F650GS needs to see this...

READERS' NEWS

By [ken_haylock](#)
Consumer news
12 September 2008 16:43

A friend of mine was riding across the Canadian wilderness on the Alaska Highway when the front forks of her 2002 BMW F650GS fractured at the wheel spindle mount (apparently, the right hand mount went first) and the bike went into an uncontrollable tank slapper before bucking her off when the front wheel was ripped clean off the bike, smashing her arm to pieces.

For more pictures and details, along with contributions and pictures from other people who have experienced identical failures, including another who had the same thing happen only a week or so ago, see [this thread](#).

What makes this particularly interesting and disturbing is that there are reports of this happening to the early F650GS from right back when the bike was launched. Worse still, BMW themselves redesigned the fork castings to beef them up significantly in exactly the areas that failed in this crash, and started fitting the heavier duty fork castings to all F650GS and F650GS Dakar bikes manufactured after June 2003.

There is no official explanation for this, but the obvious conclusion to draw is that BMW know about a situation where the the fork castings on early F650GS motorcycles were somewhat marginal in their robustness, but chose to fix the fault in new production without recalling the older bikes.

So, if you or somebody you love has one of these bikes, look at the thread and check your castings with a magnifying glass, and if you have had a similar thing happen, please add to the thread - any information and documentation you can offer will help to inform any campaign to get BMW to do the worldwide recall that I suspect they should have done when they first found this issue!

Page | 1

Now tell us YOUR story

[Upload stories, photos or videos direct to the site](#), or email mcn.news@bauerconsumer.co.uk.

Text videos or photos to 07834 500911, or call 01733 468842 (+44 1733 468842)

Rate this item [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#)

Average rating: ★★★★★ (10 ratings)

Featured Partners... |

Discuss this

[Add your comment](#)



[ken_haylock](#) says

Update: The running total is currently standing at 10 fork failures!!!

Yep, we know of ten of these incidents. The first we know of was a rider on an

1 of 6



[Enlarge Image](#)



www.pacwit.com

Ads by Goooooogle

Email frier

My inbox

Compa
Save money
quotes. It's

Motorc

Find your n

(Select M

(All Mode

[More Search](#)

Sell your m
for **£9.99**

MOST POP

Viewed

[Vigilante b
police](#)

[MV Agust](#)

[The 10 be
Versys](#)

[Video funn
racer style](#)

[Honda air
collisions](#)

[The clip sp
BBC woul](#)

[Teaser vid
1098](#)

[BMW S10](#)

[Friday fun
motorcycle](#)

[First ride!](#)

expedition on Ruta 40 in Argentina in January 2001 - the wheel fell off, the forks dug in, he flipped three times and broke his neck and a lot of other stuff. Months in hospital. Apparently he sued BMW back home in America and discovered that there had been three other identical failures before BMW redesigned the castings to make them stronger. In 2003 there was one in Australia with a pre-modification Dakar - BMW told the rider that they had never seen anything like it before and that it must have been his fault. Then there are three more in the USA that we know of and have pictures of, culminating in the one above, and then another one on a Dakar a couple of weeks later. All this is documented in the 'Advrider' forum thread linked from the original story.



24 October 2008 20:14

[jonmgo](#) says



Horrendous !!!

Hope your freind is ok? Although the bike is not new, BMW should still be responsible if they were aware of this problem.

20 September 2008 14:37



[sidewayss](#) says



dodgy forks

scary, very scary. get well soon.

18 September 2008 10:49

5 Tips to Get a Flat Stomach

Learn the truth about:

- *ab exercises
- *fat loss methods
- *diet pill scams
- *stubborn belly fat and more



[Click Here to Start Losing Ugly Belly Fat](#)

www.StomachFatsUgly.net
Ads by Google

© Copyright 2008 Bauer – All rights reserved. Terms of use | Privacy policy | Advertise with us | Site map

[HOME](#) [NEWS](#) [SPORT](#) [MOTORCYCLE REVIEWS](#) [MOTORCYCLES FOR SALE](#) [SHOPPING](#) [COMPARE INSURANCE](#) [FIND DEALERS & SERVICES](#) [ADVICE](#) [C](#)