

Revolutionary ONZA Octopus.v2 tire unearthed.

After nearly three decades, evidence has surfaced of a much-rumoured sequel to the legendary Onza Octopus tire.

Hailed as the grippiest Mountain Bike tire of all time, the Octopus followed in the footsteps of the legendary Onza Porcupine, which came to prominence in the winning run by Greg Herbold at the 1990 inaugural UCI World Downhill Championships, Durango, Colorado.

Until now there were only vague rumours that Onza test riders had been spotted on prototypes of something even more radical.

A recent groundbreaking discovery uncovered a single period photograph which indeed now confirms that an Octopus.v2 tire was in development.

The image was discovered on a harddrive belonging to the recently deceased John Valentine, formerly known as John Stevenson. In his life of cycling journalism, John was the chief technical editor for Mountain Biking UK (MBUK) magazine in the mid '90s. It was John who broke the story of the Onza Octopus with an editorial exclusive that caused a sensation at the time.

It's now believe that Onza had established a 'special working relationship' with MBUK and John in particular. It's not uncommon for media individuals to sit on heavy non-disclosure agreements with product brands, prior to an important product release.

The Onza Octopus.v2 tire is revealed here for the very first time. Coincidentally the timing is just days before John's cycling industry friends and loved ones gather for his Life Celebration.



Onza's radical Octopus.v2 tire prototype

In addition to Onza's distinctive 'Sucker-Tec®' tread design, plus their Patented 'Ultra-Grip' white rubber compound, the .V2 prototype tire shows distinct punched cutouts between the suckers themselves. What's believed to be the tire's inner casing can be seen through the holes. The casing is rumoured to be reinforced with 370tpi Military grade kevla weave. It is thought that these cut-outs allow additional grip in soft and muddy conditions by offering up a 'bite-edge' between the suckers.

For reasons unknown, Onza completely shelved the Octopus.V2 project, and buried all development evidence. Now this single surviving image, held onto by John, is all that remains.

Since the demise and subsequent sale of the Onza brand, plus the sad news that John recently lost his fight with Cancer, the World is denied the truth. Maybe, the unearthing of the Onza Octopus.V2 is John's dying wish that we'll all be suckered by him, just one more time?