Two-Wheel Triumph Of Technology

Gary Wollenhaupt

everal RC motorcycles have come and gone over the years, but the new Losi Promoto-MX is here to stay.

Designer Gil Losi Jr. and his team worked on the technology and design problems for more than three years and seem to have them solved.

"We're excited to finally make the RC motorcycle a reality after a lot of testing and trials to dial in the technology and vehicle design," Losi said.

The Promoto-MX is the first of the RC bikes to replicate the experience of riding a real motorcycle. However, with the technology in control, the user doesn't actually steer the bike.

Instead, the electronics translate the input from the transmitter into an angle of lean, and the servo turns the fork based on the bike's speed.

The electronics include a 2700Kv motor and steel flywheel mounted in the center of the frame. The motor spins the flywheel at over 22,000 rpm to create a gyroscopic force for



unparalleled stability. Meanwhile, the patent-pending Spektrum MS6X technology takes input from the DX3PM transmitter and commands the Promoto-MX to lean, turn, and control wheelies with unprecedented balance and finesse.

One of the keys to success was the lean bar design, which keeps the motorcycle from exceeding its maximum lean angle. The bars help push it back upright to straighten out and exit a turn. With the adjustable stops for up and down travel, users can dial in the bike for any surface or grip level. They also often help with crash recovery when the rear tire has traction. If the bike is down on the track, simply hit the throttle to stand it upright and resume driving.

"The lean bars help replicate the effect of a rider putting a foot or knee down to balance the bike in a turn," Losi said. "The limiting factor is the grip of the front tire, which is why it's so important to tune the bike to the surface it will be running on. There's a difference between asphalt and loose surfaces like dirt or grass." HM



