



Will a dream come true?

Autumn 2017 – A new great adventurous challenge

2448 miles, 8 states, 45 cities in 60 days with a solar bike!

In October 2017, Michel a 53 years old Belgian broadcasting engineer will attempt to make his dream come true: cover not less than 2448 miles in 60 days using only solar energy.

Michel has invented and built his solar bike piece by piece, which resulted in the first electric bike straightly sourced by solar panels to reach a speed of 20 miles per hour. He will leave the Orlando area on October 2017, where he has built his bike, to head straight for Chicago where his amazing challenge will start. In Chicago Michel will join Route 66 and will attempt a global record: riding all along Route 66 on a solar bike, ending in Santa Monica and headlining green energy as the sustainable new way in serving our daily needs.

If you have sun you can find a way to make it run!

Michel lives in Belgium, Europe and always dreamed to ride along Route 66. Three years ago he decided to do it with a 100% green vehicle: *"An electric bike seemed fun but the autonomy is quite limited if you want to ride 65 miles per day. No vehicle was able to do it, so I had no other choice to build it myself."* His first solar bike was made after a lot of calculations, many drawings and 3 prototypes.

With the help of friends who provided space in their garage for the last 3 years, the first prototype came from a trailer that is used to pull a kayak with a bike, the second one was hand-built with aluminum and he built the final one, following a friend's advice, with a much lighter material: carbon fiber, allowing to save 30 pounds (15 kg).

During those 3 years Michel get excited each time he flew out to Orlando: *"It was thrilled to improve the calculations and plans I initially did at home. And every time I came back home to Belgium I had more technical challenges to solve and new things to try out"*. But for Michel this challenge is also a great human adventure: *"The technical challenge is obviously what drives me, but it also brings a wonderful opportunity to meet and interact with the people I'll meet along the way, it will give me an opportunity to share part of my dream with them, and who knows who might want to join me on the road for a few miles (or more)."*

And this journey is also an outstanding occasion to support a good cause. *"Being able to live this amazing adventure and realizing my dream, makes me feel incredibly fortunate. So this is also an opportunity for me to give back. As music has always been part of my life, especially blues and rock, I have chosen to support the Willie Dixon Foundation. This foundation helps artists and musicians in obtaining what is rightfully theirs and to educate both adults and children on the history of Blues, and the business of music."*

The vehicle consists of a Prodecotech Phantom X3 electric bike equipped with a homemade trailer that Michel has designed. Each single piece will support the 6 HQST lightweight solar panels regulated by a high-tech computer, that will allow to travel for 60 days on solar energy and, if needed, a few pedal kicks (a little muscle power too!). The bike can reach up to 20 miles per hour when the sun is shining and up to 100 miles thanks to the 4* 10 Amper Hours Lithium Polymer batteries. This level of engineering makes this bike completely innovative and unique, being the first 500 watt electric bike straightly fed with 600 Watt Solar cells.

Like Michel put it: "As we're at a turning point in today's technology, I do hope soon we will be able to drive/ride/move in a new, ecological way, driven by natural power only, and by doing so, taking more care of our dear Planet Earth".

[The Itinerary: October ~ November]

Chicago, IL - Wilmington, IL - Chenoa, IL - Lincoln, IL - Springfield, IL -
Edwardsville, IL - Grey Summit, MO - Cuba, MO - St Robert, MO - Conway, MO
- Springfield, MO - Carthage, MO - Miami, OK - Chelsea, OK - Tulsa, OK -
Stroud, OK - Oklahoma City, OK - Weatherford, OK - Elk City, OK - Shamrock,
OK - Groom, TX - Amarillio, TX - Vega, TX - San Jon, NM - Newkirk, NM - Santa
Rosa, NM - Between Las Vegas, NM and Tecolote, NM - Santa Fee, NM -
Albuquerque, NM - Los Lunas, NM - North Acomita Village, NM - Continental
Divide, NM - Gallup, NM - Chambers, AZ - Holbrook, AZ - Winslow, AZ -
Flagstaff, AZ - Ash Fork, AZ - Peach Spring, AZ - Kingman, AZ - Needles, CA -
Chambless, CA - Newberry, CA - Victorville, CA - Rancho Cucamonga, CA -
Los Angeles, CA.



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