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SCHAEFFLER TECHNOLOGIES GMBH & CO. KG, SCHWEINFURT

New compact FAG inner bearing for bicycles

Bottom Brackets BB29 for City and Touring Bicycles – Smooth Operation Saves Energy

Schaeffler Group Industrial has now developed a new, compact FAG-brand bottom bracket unit for city and touring bicycles. The bottom bracket is the main bearing position in a bicycle. This BB29 bottom bracket stands out because of its perfectly smooth operation resulting from an optimized bearing arrangement. Unlike conventional bottom brackets, the bearings do not have to be braced in the frame. This design has a positive effect on the bearing's smooth running and ensures that riders use significantly less energy to get to their destination.

Reliability and zero maintenance

The shaft is coated with a special corrosion protection agent that provides corrosion resistance in a salt-spray test lasting over 200 hours. Conventional bottom brackets are zinc-plated, offering only limited protection. In addition, both ball bearings are sealed on both sides and lubricated for life. This ensures maximum reliability and zero maintenance for their entire service life.

The glass fiber reinforced plastic housing balances small frame tolerances and simplifies installation. The dual-fix design makes installation with available tooling especially easy, providing a housing profile that is suitable for holding both FAG tools (external) and Shimano tools (internal). The considerably reduced diameter in the center of the bearing unit creates sufficient space for inserting electric light cables or other connections.

The new BB29 bottom bracket is available for axle lengths of 119, 122.5 and 127 mm as pre-mounted compact inner bearings with two hexagonal bolts: a TC model on the left housing with a flange on the frame and as a TO model with open left housing without a flange.

BBL66: Classic design for very high loads

The BB29 complements FAG's previously available bottom bracket line: The BBL66 is a classic among bottom brackets. With its high-precision and high load capacity components, it offers smooth operation and a long rating life even under maximum loading. It is particularly suitable for load-carrying bicycles and freight bicycles and has been the preferred bottom bracket in bicycles used by the German postal service.

FAG Cronitect® hybrid: Ultimate smooth operation thanks to special steel and ceramics

For high-performance applications in premium racing bicycles, FAG offers special high-tech bottom brackets. FAG's Cronitect® hybrid rolling bearing has been a popular product for several years now. The material combination of Cronitect® heavy duty steel for bearing rings and ceramics for rolling elements, an improved ball raceway geometry and a new friction-reducing seal design all work together to provide essential benefits: smooth operation and an enormous increase in reliability. Compared to conventional non-corroding bearings, corrosion resistance is also significantly increased. This is also true for the rating life of the bearings compared to conventional rolling bearings. And the weight has also been reduced. Campagnolo, the Italian cult brand for racing bicycle components, uses FAG's innovative Cronitect® hybrid rolling bearings in its premium racing bicycle series Super Record™ under the name CULT™ (Ceramic Ultimate Level Technology). Since 2009, this innovative FAG bearing technology has also given inline skaters the decisive advantage for even more dynamic power, smooth operation and skating fun.

#### More than 125 years of experience

Nobody has more experience than FAG when it comes to rolling bearings in bicycles. Ever since Friedrich Fischer developed the industrial manufacture of ball bearings more than 125 years ago, laying the foundation for modern rolling bearing technology, rolling bearings made by FAG have been used in bicycles, particularly when smooth operation, load carrying capacity and long rating life are important.

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The new, compact FAG-brand bottom bracket unit was developed for city and touring bicycles. It stands out because of its perfectly smooth operation.

(Image: Schaeffler Group)

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FAG is a brand of the Schaeffler Group.

The Schaeffler Group with its product brands INA, LuK and FAG is a leading manufacturer of rolling bearings and linear products as well as a renowned supplier to the automotive industry of high-precision products and systems for engines, transmissions and chassis applications. The group of companies stands for exceptional customer focus, innovative ability and the highest possible level of quality. Sales

of over € 9.5 billion were generated at over 180 locations in more than 50 countries in 2010. With around 70,000 employees worldwide, the Schaeffler Group is one of the largest German and European industrial companies in family ownership.

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