

Timeless Motors: Forward, Into The Past

The cat is out of the bag. Actually, it's been out of the bag for a while. It just took us some time to catch up with it.

The last time we visited the Motor Brothers at their Mean Green Products town in El Paso, Texas, they were busy with what The Motor called, at the time, "something entirely different and exciting but I can't really talk about it yet. It's actually been in development for the past six, seven years and something my brother has been obsessed with all that time."

That was a year ago (I don't do 60s and brother Mike has indeed been obsessing over the new cat, shaping and molding it to make it look (and act) just like the original cat) to the point where you can't tell what's which. "It has finally taken up my whole life," is how Mike puts it. "Our shop has the ability to make just about anything automotive or motorcycle, which is what allowed me to dream of doing something like this."

What you're looking at is the exact same thing a customer of the building company called Harley Davidson might have looked at back in a show room in 1950—if they'd had those rooms back then. "There are no improvements on it," says Mike about the modern-day, green-tinted, "It's not at all modernized."

As they were so long ago, the carburetors, which alone have more than 50 parts, are brass. The cylinders are iron, the engine cases and axles are sand-cast, as are the cylinders. More than 100 rivets had to be built. "All the frame castings are cast investment castings," Mike explains. "One tank is oil, one is gas and there's even a



oil reservoir tank on both sides where you can see all your level of oil through a glass sight underneath the tank. Something that was not with a stopwatch to 10 down a minute."

The bike, with its 400cc motor, operates off a 6-watt, modern battery, because it's not a progress bike. But it's total fuel gas-free, runs on oil (and sunflower), according to Mike, the battery is really capable of 100 to 200 miles, which would have been a long distance back then, when there were no roads. "People would buy their batteries at the drug store, and sometimes that had two by the way," Mike laughs. "It's true that would be white gas, which we now call Coleman lamp fuel."

Even though the original had the power

