



Turbine Technology



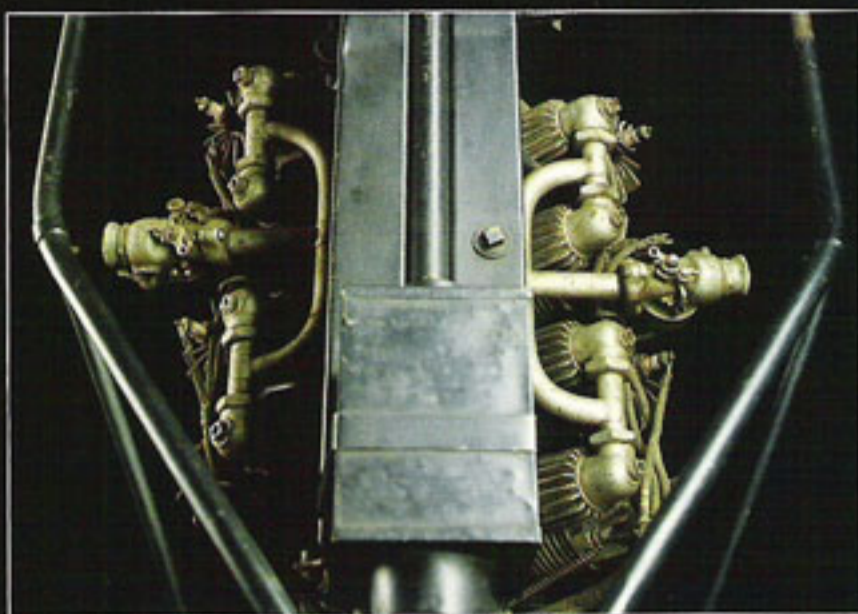
Why Do When You Can Overdo?

When it comes to horsepower, only too much seems to be enough. The Marine Turbine Technologies MTT Superbike (\$186,000) is the most powerful street-legal motorcycle available, with 320 hp and 450 ft lbs of torque on tap from its vibration-free Allison/Rolls-Royce 263 gas turbine helicopter engine.

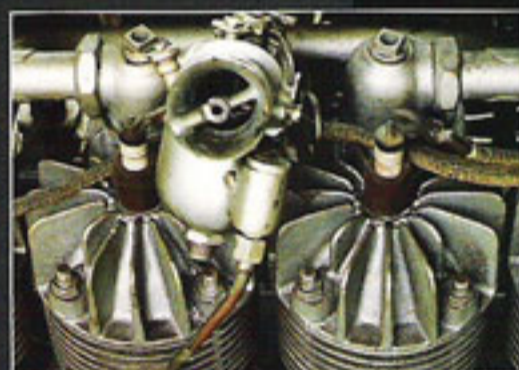
Since maximum torque and horsepower are developed at only 3,000 rpm of its output shaft, the Superbike requires only two gears in its custom-built transmission. This



PHOTOGRAPHY BY RANDALL CONGRO, MOTORCYCLE COURTESY OF JAY LENO



The Curtiss V-8 in all its turn-of-the-century glory



Curtiss Aero-Engined V-8

(continued from page 21) directions. "It must have sounded like the wrath of God!" comments Trafford Doherty, director of the Curtiss Museum in Hammondsport, New York.

When all was said and done, Curtiss was clocked at 136.3 mph in the timed section of the course, a feat of mechanical design and personal courage that earned him the title of "The Fastest Man in the World."

Although the record was considered unofficial (a mechanical problem prevented the machine from running the course again under official observation), it is one that would not be bested by an automobile for 11 years...or by another motorcycle until 1930. —Paul Garson

Curtiss Museum: 607.569.2160

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(continued from previous page) prodigious power is delivered in a linear manner, allowing the 500-pound Superbike to accelerate like a Saturn V rocket. Shrieking (and smelling) like an F-16, it pounds the rider with G forces on its way to an actual 235-mph top speed.

Because turbine engines continue to produce power even as the throttle is closed, a push-button-controlled clutch allows braking and cornering to be accomplished safely. Proving that nothing exceeds like excess, the MTT Superbike is simply the quickest land vehicle with a license plate. —Jan Morgan

Marine Turbine Technologies: www.marineturbine.com



The MTT Superbike takes aero-engined motorcycles into the 21st century.

