

# MITAS E09 ADVENTURE TYRE

WORDS: **Colin Cooper** PIC: **Vege**

Maybe I've hit 'crisis' times, but I'm sure from time to time we all have trouble with changes.

To the issue then...

Tyres, so how do YOU choose? Personal to each and every one of us I say.

My own particular dilemma is; which tyre will cover the conditions I encounter on any of the differing rides I share with my beloved (read – Cagiva Gran Canyon adventure stead)?

Having had a long term relationship with one brand, I was comfortable to stay with her, I mean them, I mean .... heck you know.

## TIME FOR A CHANGE?

Preceding this year's 'Most Excellent' Capital Coast Adventure, Vege advised that I would be trying out a new pair of Mitas E09 tyres. And of course one look at them had me all stressed out.

"Yeah but I gotta cover a lotta kms to get there Vege and these look more aggressive – will they grip on the seal? Blah, blah, blah" – yep, resisting change again.

But I did as I was told, and wish to

report a welcome discovery – 3,500km of tarseal, and not even half worn on the rear.

That is a surprisingly better wear rate than expected for a more open knobby tyre.

Seal grip is satisfactory (but cautious) in the wet, and surprisingly capable in the dry. I had expected some drop in grip from such an aggressive off-road oriented tyre, but no way did I imagine I would get more than 1,000km out of it. The front does take a hammering if there's lots of heavy braking – but that's the same on any knob though.

But what about grip off-road you ask?

## MORE GOOD NEWS

I'm glad you asked. In fact I'd have to say that wear rate aside the foremost feature of the Mitas tyres is their outstanding dirt and mud traction securing confidence in wrestling the 240kg 'don't-drop-me-or-I'll-smash-my fairings' Cagiva.

So Vege, I concede I am resistant to change, but now I am enjoying an extremely versatile set of tyres suiting an adventure ride with flexibility of whatever terrain may be encountered over the course of its next trip. **KR**



Collie Cooper putting the Mitas E09 Adventure Tyres to the test



# SHOT MX GEAR REVIEW

By: **Ollie Sharp**

Over and above price, I believe brand affinity is the biggest factor in a buyer's decision making process when it comes to sifting through the myriad of MX gear on the market – either that or a really good sales pitch. KR is fortunate enough to receive new gear once in a blue moon and last month Nationwide Accessories supplied some cool-looking French-born and designed Shot race gear for the 2009 YZ450F photo shoot, and since I rode in the fancy looking kit here's my two cents worth.

Featured in the 09' YZ450F test is the Flexor line of Shot race gear. The **Flexor jersey** is constructed out of high quality 180 gram micromesh polyester with sublimation printing and a short cuff design. Most important of all the Flexor jersey is light, comfortable and quick drying. RRP \$69 Sizing: SM – XXXL

The **Shot Flexor pant** is equally comfortable being anatomically constructed out of 840D Duratech nylon for extra protection. All the high wear areas are reinforced with 500D Kodra textile and the right knee gets special treatment with reinforced bal-

listic Kevlar. RRP \$249 Sizing: 26 – 44

Not to be outdone, the **Flexor glove** is similarly anatomically constructed from nylon super-mesh and neoprene. It features a Clarino palm with Lycra finger gussets and expansion panels for the fingers and thumb. RRP \$69 Sizing: 8 – 13

Last but not least is the **Shot Vortek helmet** in White Fusion. Weighing in at a feather weight 1250 grams +/- 50 grams, it's light, good looking and budget savvy with all the necessary safety certification. RRP \$299 Sizing: XS – XXL

Quality in the Shot Flexor range is top notch and is most certainly aimed at the premium market. I couldn't put the Flexor range at fault, and if the Flexor range is not your thing, take a look at some of Shot's other product lines. My only advice is to try the pants on first, I'm usually a 34inch and was supplied with 34inch pants but found them a little big and could drop back to a 32inch for a firmer fit. And don't be surprised if you catch the Shot logo appearing more often around your local pits – it's a brand growing quickly in popularity. **KR**