

## Topanga Comp

by Adam Bernhardt, PCI #821

New South Wales Police (Australia)

At present, the majority of stations across New South Wales are using some form of bicycle patrol, either on a full-time or part-time basis. Most stations using bicycle patrol are found in metropolitan areas.

NSW Police has bikes in stations as far north as Tweed Heads (borders Queensland, another state on the eastern seaboard) as far west as Orange (that's the outback or as close to it as we get!), south to Albury-Wodonga (near the snowfields) and, of course, all along the coastal areas and in the business areas.

The NSW Police Bicycle Patrol has a fleet of 600 mountain bikes, which have been customised to meet our specific needs. The bikes are hard tail mountain bikes, based on the 2005 model Diamondback *Topanga Comp*. A three-year tender process was won by Pacific Brands, with technical advice and support also coming from Shimano.

Bikes had to include a number of specifications to meet Australian standards: suitable for all terrain; equipped with hydraulic disc brakes for all-weather use; painted white with full police markings; and fitted with tyres suitable for both on- and off-road use. Also, a dual suspension (*Haro Shift*) cross country model MTB is used.

The Diamondback *Topanga Comp* is a very versatile and reliable bike. I've ridden other brands and found that the Diamondback best suits our needs. When I was involved in the specifications/testing and evaluation, I found that this model had parts that were more readily interchangeable and able to be upgraded and/or modified with ease. For instance, components are generally from the same groupset rather than having interchanging components (e.g., Shimano FD and SRAM RD).

Instructors' bikes are fitted with Shimano 'HONE' components due to heavy wear and tear during training.

<b>Frame</b>	Alloy Frame With Integrated Head Tube and Disc Brake Mount
<b>Fork</b>	Mazocchi EXR Comp with 85mm Adjustable Travel
<b>Brakes</b>	Shimano Hydraulic Discs Front and Rear MS25
<b>RD</b>	Shimano XT
<b>FD</b>	Shimano LX
<b>Shifter</b>	Shimano Deore 9 Speed MS10
<b>Crankset</b>	Truvativ Fire-X Power Spline 22/32/42
<b>Freewheel</b>	Shimano 9 Speed Cassette CS-HG50 11-32T
<b>Rims</b>	Alex Ace-18 Double Wall Anodised Black with Stainless Steel Spokes
<b>Hubs</b>	Sealed Deore R
<b>Seat Post</b>	Alloy Micro-Adjustable With Q/R Alloy Seal Clamp
<b>Handlebar</b>	Alloy Riser 20mm Rise, W 380mm
<b>Stem</b>	Alloy Oversize A-Head
<b>Colour</b>	White
<b>Sizes</b>	38cm (15"), 43cm (17"), 48cm (19"), 53cm (21"), 58cm (23")
<b>Extras</b>	Tioga Factory XC Tyres; Truvativ Power Spline BB, Rear Alloy Kickstand, Rear Derailleur Guard
<b>Lights</b>	Cateye ABS20
<b>Siren</b>	NiteRider Police Siren

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