

MAP Centurion Triumph

Press Release

Successful First Test for MAP Centurion Triumph

The new MAP Centurion Triumph team are delighted with their first test on the Triumph 675, the team packed up and headed for Cartagena last Wednesday and enjoyed a three day testing session at the tight and twisty Cartagena circuit.

Thursday was the first day out on track for the MAP Centurion Triumph team and the first time the team have worked together as a group. The conditions were ideal with an air temperature of 21 and a track temperature of 35 it was perfect for the four riders Dan Cooper, AJ Venter, Jimmy Hill and Josh Caygill to put in some laps to set up the bikes to suit their style.

The two Fuchs-Silkolene British Supersport riders Dan Cooper and AJ Venter successfully completed around 50 laps each on the opening day, making small alterations to the Triumph to get them adjusted to their new machinery. Each in turn began to put in consistent lap times and settled into a rhythm, AJ suffered a small crash on day one when he missed his braking point, both rider and bike were fine and after a fairing change he was soon back out on the track.

Meanwhile Metzeler Superstock 600 riders Jimmy Hill and Josh Caygill, quickly got back into the swing of things, each completed around 40 laps on the Thursday and were soon making good progress with the Triumph and getting good times.

The second and third day saw an extreme change in the weather conditions with the air temperature dropping to around 10 degrees with a strong wind, which made testing a little more difficult. However,

all four riders continued to make fantastic progress with the bikes and soon began to put in strong and consistent lap times. With only minor changes needed on the bikes, Cooper, Venter, Caygill and Hill settled in extremely well and the entire team gelled together and made progression in every session and are now getting prepared for an MRO round at Brands Hatch on the 20th and 21st March.

The riders were very pleased with their first test with MAP Centurion Triumph and Supersport rider Dan Cooper said "I'm really pleased with the way things have gone over the last three days. The Triumph was difficult for me to adjust to initially but JT and Jason helped me settle in really well and made changes that made my life easier. I've only ever ridden a Honda in Supersport so I just spent many laps just riding the Triumph, adjusting to it and getting used to how it works, how to ride it and where to brake! It's really good, a great bike and I can't wait now for the season to start. I'd like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to put all this together and just hope we can all get good results this year."

AJ Venter backed Cooper up saying "I've ridden the Triumph before so it was nice to be back out on the track on one again. Testing has gone well for the team. The MAP Centurion Triumph 675 is a REAL beast!! All the hours of work which Jason and John Trigger have put in over the winter has really paid off. I had a bit of an "off" on the first day due to my own error really, but we got the bike fixed for the next two days testing. Its good working with Dan Cooper as we both had many different things to test on the bike and with the two of us riding together on track we learned a lot more off each other. I'm really confident for this season after riding the new triumph 675 as the bike is a massive improvement from the one I raced in 2006. We have now gained a massive amount of information, which we can work through leading up to Brands Hatch so we can improve on some areas of the bike. A big thank you must go to Dave Fairbrother and Paul Rees for organising the test and also MAP Group UK and Triumph for making it possible."

The two 600 Superstock riders were equally pleased with how things had gone over the three days, youngster Jimmy Hill said "The test in Cartagena couldn't have gone any better. I gelled with the hard working team, the Triumph is unbelievable and the best machine I've ever ridden. We got a great set up and with that I set some good strong lap times. I must say a massive thank you to the MAP Centurion

Triumph Team and all my personal sponsors. I can't wait to get out and start racing now and get some good results to return the thank you for everyone who has made it happen!"

Jimmy's team-mate Josh Caygill said "After our 3 day Spanish Test at Cartagena things are progressing nicely for me and the team, after riding the Triumph for the first time it felt really good to be back on such a great bike. We were really happy with the set up we achieved in such a short space of time. I adapted my style to the 675 easier than I had first thought and after everything was in place we put in some good solid race distance simulations and we had good race pace with the bike feeling solid and handling great. Our immediate aim is to keep making progress at this rate and moving forward. Thanks to the team I am really happy with how things went and would like to thank every one involved, I think I could say that we all felt like one big happy family and that's only after 5 days away!"

Team owner David Fairbrother said "I'm delighted with the way the first test went, John Trigger and Jason Jones worked exceptionally hard to have all the bikes ready for this first test but they have done a fantastic job and it made the test much easier. The new MAP Centurion Triumph team worked incredibly well together and now we are very much looking forward to the season starting. This is the first of many tests that we will have this year as we want the riders to be as settled on the Triumphs as they possibly can be and we want to give them the best opportunity to do well. I'd like to thank all the people who have been involved, all the mechanics, the riders and also MAP Group UK and VW Commercial Vehicles."

Team Manager Paul Rees commented "As this was the first time the team had come together, the overall assessment on the Spanish test was extremely encouraging. The Triumphs were brilliant as John Trigger and the engineers had worked extremely hard to produce the machines for the four riders. Each rider showed their true professionalism and team-work by encouraging each other on and off the track, this is very important for a team as there cannot be an individual in a team structure such as this.

Lap times were not really important at this stage but it was admirable to see the lads pushing themselves as well as the bikes, the weather wasn't a real problem as conditions encountered were similar to UK early in the season. A few minor problems were had over the three

days but were all sorted immediately as this came down to bike preparation in the UK prior to arriving for the test. The new team gelled well together, worked well together and all are looking to a great season ahead. We would like to thank all of the personal and team sponsors at this stage for assisting the team in the pre-season build up".

The team are now busy preparing for the MRO round at Brands Hatch on the 20th and 21st March, a few weeks off then onto the first round of the British Superbike season, which gets underway at Brands Hatch on Easter Weekend, where the full MAP Centurion Team will be out in force looking for some strong results.

MCT would like to thank the following sponsors: -

Triumph Motorcycles, MAP Group UK, Centurion Safety, VW Commercial Vehicles, VW Van Centre (West Yorkshire), ADD Express Ltd, Fuchs-Silkolene, After Accident Care Team Ltd, Smiths, THB Clowes, K-tech, Brembo, Promach, Skidmarx, Race by Design, RS Workshop Equipment, JT Engineer Developments Ltd, HM Quick Shifters, Dynojet, B & C Express, HEL Brakelines, Samco Hoses, GB Racing, King Dick Tools, Knox Back Protectors, Pallex, Dread Clothing, Furygan. Stringray RV, Racepaint and ImageDzign.

Editors Notes: -

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[About Triumph](#)

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First established in 1902 and now based in Hinckley, Leicestershire, Triumph Motorcycles is currently the fastest growing motorcycle brand in the world. For over a decade Triumph has produced iconic bikes which perfectly blend design, character, charisma and performance. Producing around 50,000 bikes per year, Triumph is the largest British automotive manufacturer in the country.

At the heart of Triumph's philosophy is a commitment to developing truly unique motorcycles that offer a blend of distinctive design, intuitive handling and performance. The innovation and engineering passion that gave birth to the iconic Bonneville of the 60's has today created a broad range of bikes suited to all motorcycle riders, including the striking 2.3 litre Rocket III, the unmistakable Speed Triple and the powerful Daytona 675.

In recent years it is the Daytona 675 that has enabled Triumph to truly stamp its mark on the modern motorcycle landscape, a proven class leader in the field. After

winning the Supertest 'King of the Supersport' crown for four successive years the Daytona's status has been further enhanced with a strong performance two years running in the 2008 British Supersport Championship.

With an impressive 2010 product portfolio in place, including significant updates to existing best-selling bikes and a striking new model, Triumph is set to continue to enhance its status in the marketplace.

Triumph currently employs around twelve hundred personnel worldwide and has offices in the UK, America, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden and Benelux, plus a network of independent distributors. Triumph has manufacturing facilities in Hinckley, Leicestershire and Thailand. Visit www.triumph.co.uk

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