

MBUK - DECEMBER 2007

BRAND NEW KIT



COMPETITION
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LUPINE **EXCLUSIVE** BETTY 6 **MOST WANTED**



£595 ZYRO PLC 01845 521700 www.zyro.eu.com

German illumination fanatics Lupine have been way ahead of the curve on lighting innovation for several years now. It's significant then that they're one of the first light manufacturers to completely drop HID bulbs in favour of high power LEDs. Why have they done it and what are the results?

HIDs (High Intensity Discharge) bulbs pump out an incredible amount of dazzling light for a given battery draw, but these miniature 'strip light' style bulbs are extremely fragile and as replacing them can cost up to £100. LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes) are far cheaper and tougher, with a lifespan that runs into tens of thousands of hours, although the distance the darkness is pushed back with an LED isn't quite as great as with HIDs. The light saturation is far better though, with a complete starburst surround illumination right out to your peripheral vision edges - perfect for ripping through tight technical singletrack.

The compact, broad faced light also sits lower on the face of the bar, with the fantastically simple but secure O ring and hook system a cinch to fit. The tiny 6.8ah Li-ion battery bag hangs easily under stem or top tube too, and the whole set-up weighs only 492g. 24hr soloists should note that the Betty 12 gets a 13.8ah bottle battery for monster (6-336hr) run times.

Lupine also add their super neat backlit 'PCS' programmable remote control switch, which can be set to give two, three or no-step dimming options for run times between three and 160-plus hours. It also displays a battery life indicator on start up and a low battery warning light. Add the long term reliability of LEDs and while it's still expensive, it's relatively good value for the ultimate LED light available. *Guy*

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MBUK VERDICT
 ■■■■■■■■■■ PERFORMANCE
 ■■■■■■■■■■ VALUE

Outstanding, state of the art lighting that's super simple to use



The programmable PCS switch also shows battery life