

# MOTUS OF NEW ENGLAND OPEN HOUSE SMOKED HOG and TEST RIDES

By Tim Baer

## Factory Sends Up a Trailer of Motus Motorcycles for Test Rides

June 2, 2018  
Gardner, MA

I had a beautiful ride up to Rob Swartz's place, home of Rob's Dyno and the new Motus of New England Dealership located at 268 Coleman Street in Gardner, MA. Despite the forecast of showers, it turned out to be a sunny and warm day.

Rob had planned well for his Open House. He had the smoker and grill up and running, smoking a hog and grilling some chicken and burgers, along with a couple of salads. He set up a large tent in the yard with tables and chairs and filled a couple coolers with cold drinks. He invited a great group of vendors such as Vanson Leathers, Helibars, Woodcraft-CFM, Computrack-Boston, WCU, Harddrive and the Broken Chains Biker Church. Also he had the mobile team of Motus Motorcycles come up from Alabama. They brought up a few cycles for test rides and had their display motor on hand. Early in the day, Mark Hawke, the Mayor of Gardner came by for a ribbon cutting for Rob's new business.

Rob had all five garage doors open to his shop or I should say "Speed Laboratory" which houses his 3 work bays, a bike bay and the Dyno room. The shop is a reflection of Rob and the work he does, the place is well organized, neat and clean.

Rob had a good turn out as there were about 50 cycles and some



Ten Motus Motorcycles in a row, a few are already owned, a few are for sale and a few are test machines from the factory in Alabama. On the far end is Rob's personal bike. The red, green and blue machines were custom painted by their owners.



A smoked hog is perfect for feeding a large crowd.



THE HEART OF THE BEAST  
V4 Baby Block, 1650cc, 165 hp, 123ft/lbs of torque.



The Motus MST and the MSTR.  
One is just a little lighter, more powerful and faster than the other.



MOTUS American V4 Motorcycles. Made in Birmingham, Alabama.

cars parked along the street and they filled out the test ride roster quickly. There was also a few owners of the Motus that rode in with their personal bikes.

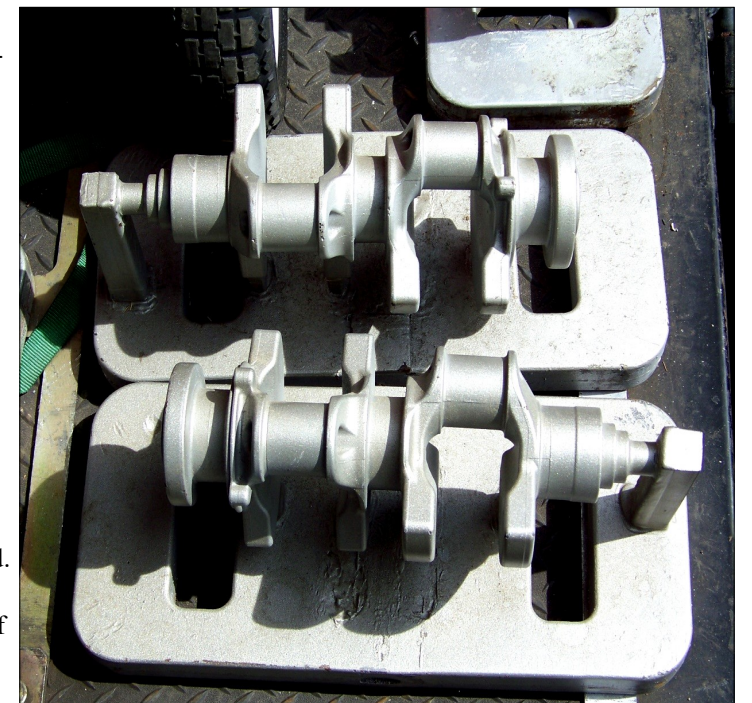
The Motus Motorcycles are about 4 years old now an they have one hell of a bike, actually two, the MST and the MSTR. Both models are built as serious sport touring machines, featuring the best components in the motorsports world. No need to upgrade the exhaust or suspension as they have been equipped with the best. Their V4 motor, they call the Baby Block, is basically half of an L5 Corvette engine that delivers massive torque across a wide, smooth power band. They claim 180 horsepower and 126 ft-lb of torque.

I didn't get a chance to test ride one as the list was pretty full but I did talk to the grinning riders as the came back in. Terms like "beast", "brute" and "awesome" were among the comments. One rider said, "Coming up an entrance ramp to the highway, I rolled it on and reached 90 mph in an instant, but it felt like 60, very fast and smooth.

Rob invited me into the dyno room to see one of the bikes being tested. I got a photo of the dyno computer screen as the bike was starting to winding out top gear. I captured the screen with 139 hp and 100 ft-lbs of torque, running at 135 mph using only 7271rpm's, which is only three quarters of the way to red line. I was totally impressed. I also heard talk of a big bore kit, hotter cams and a turbo that are in the works.

If you are looking for the ultimate sport tourer, this is it! So far the BMW sport tours are the most traded in machine when buying a new Motus Motorcycle.

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MOTUS DOUBLE THROW CRANKSHAFT CASTINGS  
Source of the Motus heart beat, the two shared crank throws are 75 degrees apart and the firing sequence goes like this: TDC or 0 degrees, then 345, 435, and 630 degrees after TDC. In other words: bang-bang...wait...bang-bang.



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