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**Atherton Bikes accelerates with Renishaw additive manufacturing**

Global engineering company Renishaw is working with new mountain bike brand Atherton Bikes to produce additively manufactured titanium lugs for the company’s bike frames. The new brand was launched in January by the Atherton siblings, Gee, Rachel and Dan and co-founded by Piers Linney of Dragons’ Den fame.

The Atherton family are World Championship-winning mountain bikers who will now race their own downhill mountain bikes during competitions as well as sell a range of bikes all over the world. The introductory bike range will be manufactured from carbon fibre tubing and lugs produced on a Renishaw multi-laser high productivity RenAM 500Q metal additive manufacturing (AM) system. Initial production will be at Renishaw’s Additive Manufacturing Solutions Centre located in Staffordshire, UK, followed by a transition towards in-house manufacture by Atherton Bikes.

Also partnering in the project is Dave Weagle, the renowned suspension designer, along with Ed Haythornthwaite and other members of the former Robot Bike Company. Renishaw had previously worked with the Robot Bike Company by manufacturing the titanium lugs for its R160 bike frame. The lugs for Atherton Bikes are the first bike components to be built on the four-laser RenAM 500Q system, which enables increased productivity, without compromising on quality.

“Renishaw is a world-leader in metal additive manufacturing machines,” explained Jono Munday, Additive Manufacturing Applications Manager at Renishaw. “Due to our position as a leading metrology business, we are also perfectly positioned to help customers develop an end-to-end solution, from AM build, all the way through machining and post-processing, providing an end-use engineered component.

“Manufacturing the lugs on the RenAM 500Q enables rapid production time,” added Munday. “This means that the bike frame development can be turned around quickly and customised to the exact requirements of the rider, whether that is the Atherton Racing team on the World Cup circuit or an individual retail customer. Whereas traditionally a lot of tooling is required, additive manufacturing is an entirely digital process, meaning that the lugs can be modified in CAD and reproduced more efficiently.”

During the development of the new Atherton Bikes, Renishaw has been giving feedback and modifying the lugs so that they can be built accurately and successfully. The AM build process, machining and post processing are managed by Renishaw at its Solutions Centre.

Renishaw offers a global network of Solutions Centres, staffed by AM experts, so businesses can build their knowledge and confidence using additive manufacturing technology. For more information on Renishaw’s Solutions Centres, visit <https://www.renishaw.com/en/additive-manufacturing-solutions-centres--37039>.

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Notes to editors

UK-based Renishaw is a world leading engineering technologies company, supplying products used for applications as diverse as jet engine and wind turbine manufacture, through to dentistry and brain surgery. It has over 4,500 employees located in the 36 countries where it has wholly owned subsidiary operations.

For the year ended June 2018 Renishaw recorded sales of £611.5 million of which 95% was due to exports. The company’s largest markets are China, the USA, Germany and Japan.

Throughout its history Renishaw has made a significant commitment to research and development, with historically between 13 and 18% of annual sales invested in R&D and engineering. The majority of this R&D and manufacturing of the company’s products is carried out in the UK.

The Company’s success has been recognised with numerous international awards, including eighteen Queen’s Awards recognising achievements in technology, export and innovation.

Further information at [www.renishaw.com](http://www.renishaw.com)