



See your ride data flash before your eyes with O-Synce's heads-up Usee

Dirk Sandrock, the founder and general manager of Momes, didn't come on the Lake Constance E-Bike Tour just to ride. Instead, we put him to work.

Momes **A1-600** is the parent company of O-Synce, which makes GPS units and other electronic components for bikes. We weren't worried about getting lost, because we had locals guiding us most of the way. But we wanted to have a complete record of our route through Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Sandrock, who joined the tour for all five days, had just the device: O-Synce's new Usee, a display that mounts to specially equipped bicycle helmets. The device, which won a gold award at ISPO earlier this year, can do a lot more than navigation.

Sandrock says Usee is the first heads-up display for bike helmets. It comes on the heels of a similar O-Synce device, the Sports Visor Screen Eye X, that fits on a cap for runners and triathletes.

With the Usee, cyclists can get the information they need without having to look down at a cycling computer. By using a tiny LCD display, the Usee displays ride information literally right

before a cyclist's eyes. It can be read in poor weather, dim light and even at night.

The Usee will originally be available on three helmet models from Abus (the GameChanger, Aventure and Viantor). While these first Usee helmets will be marketed more to serious road riders, other models are in the works.

"I'm sure that Usee is helpful not just for roadies, but for touring cyclists and e-bikers as well," Sandrock said. While cyclists who are less performance-oriented might not need all of the data that a Usee can provide, they will still find plenty of useful information.

For example, the Usee works with navigation apps like Naviki to display turn-by-turn directions and elevation profiles, which can be very helpful for a touring cyclist.

It can also display other typical cycling computer information, including riding time, distance traveled, speed, heart rate, and cadence.

"Try to read your handlebar display



Momes founder Dirk Sandrock with the O-Synce Usee heads-up display

when riding through heavy rain or snowfall. You'll fail," Sandrock said. "Usee stands for precise graphical visualization and excellent readability in all complex situations and weather conditions."

He added, "You have the visualization of routing and all kinds of training data directly in the field of view."

It works with all eyewear, including sunglasses. At only 20 grams (less than 1 ounce) it is barely noticeable on the helmet. And it is waterproof — as Sandrock demonstrated more than once during our rain-soaked tour.

Sandrock, a native of Germany, has spent more than three decades in the bicycle industry.

He held several management jobs in the two-wheeler industry before founding Momes. (The company name is an acronym for "moving micro electronic solutions.")

Other riders on the e-bike tour were skeptical at first that a cyclist could keep his or her eyes on the road while getting the information they need from the Usee.

But when they tried a Usee, they all agreed that it works, although it takes a

few minutes to get used to.

The Usee automatically adjusts the brightness of the display to ambient light, becoming fully illuminated after dark. A wireless remote provides one-button control.

The Usee uses Bluetooth Low Energy and ANT+ protocols to link to other devices. A cyclist can pair the Usee to a smartphone, for instance, so the phone can remain out of sight and protected from damage.

It also works with devices from O-Synce and from many other brands that support ANT+, along with e-bikes that use the ANT+ LEV profile like the Specialized Turbo Levo line. And it works with electric shifting systems from Campagnolo, FSA, Shimano and SRAM.

Sandrock was happy with the Usee's performance during our five-day Lake Constance tour. He said it was the longest e-bike test ride he had taken with a Usee.

Meanwhile, casual cyclists may soon be able to take advantage of the heads-up display because Abus may expand its Usee helmet range to models for mountain bikers and city riders. ■



A simple wireless remote controls the Usee.

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