



Chain Reaction Supply Chain Observations

Hey VCC,

Here's a Coles notes version of what we're all going to be facing this year with regards to inventory on all things cycling related.

Bikes:

Based on our pre-season orders, we *should* have about 400 bikes in stock right now. But... we have less than 80 now. Supply is trickling in at a very slow rate and bikes are snatched up very quickly when they arrive. So patience and a leap of faith may be required if there are any bicycle needs for you or your family.

Wheels:

We've made a concerted effort to have some key choices in stock. We are actually doing much better for inventory than we thought we'd be doing by now, but there are some gaps. But still some good choices from Enve, Roval, Mavic and some custom-built stuff. Especially for gravel.

Drivetrain:

This is going to get tricky. We still have a pretty good level of 11 speed chains. But cassettes are not arriving as fast as we can sell them in the key ranges and price points. Some compromise may be necessary in this area.

12 speed stuff - for all the Sram AXS users - is a real challenge. Despite the huge order we placed, Flat Top chains are not arriving nearly as quickly as we can sell them. We do have a few other 12 speed options from the Sram MTB side of things. (These chains are cross compatible.) We also have some 12 speed KMC chains that are fantastic.... but going fast. Cassettes are ok at the Force level but for Red we are going to be waiting some time.



Tires:

We've focused on getting huge numbers of certain tires but narrowing the selection in order to make it easier to manage. Conti GP5000 and Gatorskins will be the bread and butter this year. But we still have decent selection of Specialized and Schwalbe as well.

Service:

We are starting to book almost 1 month out for service. BUT... we are booking in a way that *should* leave a bit of a buffer for VCC members if there is an urgent need. Just reach out to us at the shop if you need something more urgently and we'll do our best.

Most other items are in *reasonable* supply right now, but that could change in a heartbeat. The key factor that is affecting the small service parts so much is the fact that a great deal of these parts that would normally go to bike shops for aftermarket sales, have been diverted to bicycle assembly facilities to get bikes on show room floors. It is a bit of a conundrum.

We are trying our hardest to fill in the gaps. Sometimes we are even successful at it. Hah... To reiterate though, patience and compromise will be needed in some cases to get things rolling.

And don't forget, Velocity members get a 5% discount.

Bill, Jason, Leslie and the whole gang

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