



~ November 2018 Issue ~

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# ALIZETI NEWSLETTER

*Stay up-to-date with all the latest news and events from Alizeti*

## How Trade Tariffs Threaten The Bike Industry

Despite the strong opposition and lobbying by the bike industry and organizations such as People For Bikes to fight the proposal made by the United States Trade Representative (USTR), increased tariffs on bicycle imports from China came into effect in mid-September. These new tariffs affected the price of everything from screws, chains, wheel spokes to pedals and electric lighting for bicycles. Most bicycle products will face a tariff increase anywhere from 10-25%.

While tariffs on a few products like disc brakes, trainers and unicycles have been suspended (Phew, we were really worried about those unicycles for a minute, there!), importers of e-bikes and e-bike motors made in China will be forced to deal with increased cost affecting their bottom line.

### Why is this happening?

The bicycle industry is still scratching its head on how the bicycle and its technology is related to the allegations against China for the theft of trade secrets and intellectual property that brought about these new tariffs in the first place. Nonetheless domestic bicycle production is now at risk due to the lack of time and investment dollars required to make a successful shift.

### So What Does This All Mean?

The allure and sexiness of the bike industry may give the impression that your local bike shop is doing very well, but this is not typically the case. Profit margins are tight and contracts with distributors keep bike dealers locked in and inventory tied up. The additional increase in the cost of bicycles that will be passed on to the consumer will likely lead to a decrease in sales, jeopardizing American jobs and small businesses. The cost of some e-bikes may rise by as much as 1000\$, deterring commuters and leisure cyclists from exploring the benefits and advantages that an e-bike can provide.

### How does this affect future Alizeti customers?

Alizeti has taken a proactive approach to secure alternate suppliers that have not been impacted by these new tariffs. Our e-bike system continues to be designed and assembled in Canada, to ensure that we can continue to produce high-quality products without increasing our pricing. In light of the current trade situation, converting your existing bike to an e-bike instead of importing highly tariffed products from overseas makes even more sense.

For more information on the USTR's bike tariffs, please visit: <https://www.peopleforbikes.org/tariffs/>

# Easy Tips For Storing Your Bike During Winter

For seasonal cyclists and bike commuters, autumn may be the time of year when you try to squeeze in and appreciate a few more rides before storing your bicycle for the winter months.

Follow these simple tips to keep your bike in mint condition throughout the winter so you are ready to jump on your bike on that first beautiful day that sometimes takes us by surprise towards the end of the season.

## Start with a tune up!

Get your bike tuned up FIRST. The best time for a tune-up on your bike is the beginning of the season. WRONG! An even better time to tune up your bicycle is right before you plan to store it. This way your bike will be ready to go when the first opportunity to ride presents itself. Another advantage of tuning your bike up at the end of the fall is you will miss the rush and avoid having to wait longer for a bike mechanic to be available to perform the tune-up.

## Location, location, location!

To keep your bike in top shape, store it

somewhere with low ambient humidity.

A poorly insulated shed is not a good idea! Avoid storing your bike where pool chemicals are kept. Even the slightest emission will corrode your screws and can damage plastics on your bike.

## Put the pressure on

Verify the recommended tire pressure on the sidewall of your tire and rim and inflate your tires to about 80% of the lowest indicated value. The tire pressure will most likely decrease over a few months so making sure the tires are sufficiently inflated can prevent your tires from deforming due to the weight of the bike resting on them.

## Squeaky clean

Show your happiness machine some love before saying farewell and treat her to a quick sponge bath. Use a cloth with mild soap and water to remove dirt, then “rinse” off soap with a wet cloth. Finally, use a dry cloth to absorb any remaining moisture on the bicycle. Finish off by lubricating the chain with a very light oil. (A heavy oil will act as a

glue and attract dust particles and pet hair, which will be unpleasant to remove!)

## Hang loose

If you will be hanging your bike in storage, make sure that no pressure is being applied on any cables or pedal sensors.

## E-bike storage

Always follow the guidelines provided by your e-bike manufacturer for long-term or winter storage, specifically the state of charge and the recommended temperature and location the battery should be stored at. It is generally recommended that the batteries be removed from the bicycle or conversion system for storage and stored separately.

Following these simple tips will prolong the life of your bicycle and keep it in tip-top shape. Now you'll be ready to fight off that nasty case of cabin fever and enjoy the first warm day that comes beckoning from the comfort and loftiness of your bike!



# Alizeti Encouraging Development Of New Solar Technology

Alizeti is a strong advocate of clean renewable solar energy and as such we are committed to the development of such technology along with educating future generations on how to leverage this important source of energy.

In May of 2018 Alizeti awarded a sponsorship to the students of Ecole de Technologie Superieure for their Eclipse X solar car project. The Eclipse X was the 10th solar car built by ETS students and was the most successful solar car ever built by the university.

In 2018 after 2 years of design and development, the team finished 3rd at the American Solar Challenge, which was the first podium finish by a Montreal university in history.

This international competition consisted of a 3000 km cross-country race across the United States at a cruising speed of 85 km/h. The entire race was to be completed using solely clean energy from the Sun.

The Eclipse team also won the Sportsmanship Award for the second consecutive year in recognition of their great team spirit and generosity. With such great up and coming minds, Alizeti is certain that the future will be brighter and better than it is today and for future generations to come.

For more information about the Eclipse X solar vehicle as well as the project, please refer to their website at <https://eclipseets.ca/wordpress/>



## Sharing The Road Safely

When riding on a street without bike paths there are a few things you can do to improve your visibility in certain situations to keep yourself safe.

When you stop at a light, move to the center of your lane. This prevents drivers from edging forward, trapping you between them and the curb. When the light changes, accelerate to your cruising speed before moving right to allow them to pass.

Stay far enough in the traffic lane to avoid being struck if doors on parked cars suddenly open. You'll likely hear some honks from motorists who don't understand why you won't pull to the right to let them pass—a honk in your ear hurts less than a door in your face.

On a road with no shoulder, ride in the right wheel track of motor vehicles to ensure you don't blend into the scenery along the edge of the road. This also gives you 3 to 4 feet of space from the edge of the pavement to let you dodge potholes or deal with wind gusts.

## Burn More Fat...Longer

Sports physiologists have found that the body's metabolic rate — the efficiency with which it burns calories and fat — is not only raised during a bike ride, but for several hours afterwards.

“Even after cycling for 30 minutes, you could be burning a higher amount of total calories for a few hours after you stop,” says sports physiologist Mark Simpson of Loughborough University.

And as you get fitter, the benefits are more profound.

One recent study showed that cyclists who incorporated fast intervals into their ride burned three-and-a-half times more body fat than those who cycled constantly but at a slower pace.





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## A Journey Is About The Memories You Create Along The Way

The Alizeti 300C E-bike conversion system can take you anywhere you want to be. A lightweight all-in-one rack-mounted design makes converting your existing bike into a powerful electric bike simple and easy. You can be up and riding in just a matter of minutes and best of all its affordable price and usefull features let you ride in comfort, safety, and style.

Visit [www.alizetibikes.com](http://www.alizetibikes.com) for more information and start your adventure today!



# Give Your Battery A Little TLC

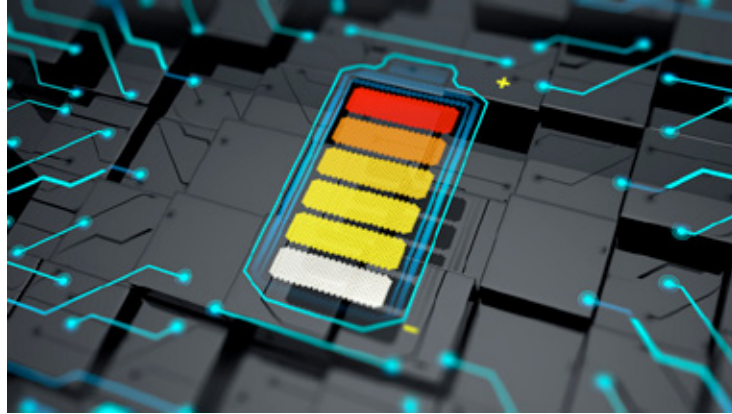
Significantly more products are now using batteries as their primary power source. This is no big surprise with the ever-increasing popularity of mobile devices, laptops, tablets, electric cars, and e-bikes. Even with the increasing demand for battery-powered devices, most consumers including e-bike owners don't know how to take proper care of their batteries. Here are a few simple steps you can follow to ensure a long trouble-free battery life cycle.

After each ride, it is a good idea to charge your battery just enough to top it up for your next ride. You should avoid leaving a battery on the charger for consecutive days as this will weaken your battery over time.

When cleaning or performing general maintenance on your e-bike, be sure to remove the battery prior to performing the work in order to avoid any accidental damage. Batteries should never be exposed to moisture as this can damage them.

When inserting or removing a battery into your e-bike it is good practice to inspect your battery to make sure it has not been accidentally damaged while in use. Dropping a battery can damage the protective case and expose the delicate

internal electronics to dirt or moisture that can eventually cause the battery to fail down the road. If you see any physical damage such as cracks, chips or leakage of any kind do not attempt to charge or use the battery until it is replaced and the old battery is safely



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If you are planning to store your e-bike for the season, it is good practice to remove the battery unit from your electric bike for both safe storage & battery health. Battery packs should be stored at 60% capacity for the optimal longevity of the battery cells. If the battery charge drops below this level the battery should be recharged

to 60% during storage. Storing the battery at room temperature in a place free from moisture is ideal and will put far less stress on the battery cells. Exposure to excessive heat can cause the battery to overheat and cold temperatures can cause the battery to underperform.

When transporting your e-bike on a car rack it is always recommended to remove the battery from the bike. This ensures the battery is inside the vehicle, safe from debris or moisture and will not take any accidental impacts while being transported.

Several easy steps can be taken to extend your battery life including maintaining recommended tire pressure. Badly set tire pressure can impact your battery range by as much as 15%. A well-maintained bike will also allow you to optimize your range. By avoiding rubbing breaks or badly adjusted gears you can instantly increase your overall range and make you ride more enjoyable.

## Fun Facts!

- The first cyclist that rode his bicycle around the world was Fred A. Birchmore. He pedaled for 25,000 miles and traveled another 15,000 miles by boat. He wore out 7 sets of tires along the way.
- 36% of Copenhagen's workforce commute on bicycles every day, and only 27% drive cars. Bicycles can also be rented for free in the city.
- The fastest speed attained on a bicycle that was driven on flat terrain with the help of pace car that removed wind turbulence was 268 km/h. This was achieved by Fred Rempelberg in 1995.
- Cycling is one of the best pastimes for people who want to reduce the risk of developing heart disease and stroke.
- Bicycles save over 238 million gallons of gas every year.