THE CORBEN PARCEL RACK
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Ben Barkow
Toronto

Not much parcel-carrying capacity with an R1100S. But here is a parcel rack I made in conjunction with a Corbin seat. The Corbin seat takes a solidly anchored backrest that fits into 5/8 in. square tunnel[1] built into the end of the seatpan and covered with a Velcro-fastened flap inscribed with the mysterious code letters, "NIBROC". The front of the rack is held by the two screw holes threaded there for retaining that silly Rocket Ship cowl.

[1] Well, on a Corbin, I should say "sort of 5/8 inch" because the fabricators at Corbin kindly provided odd extra bits of weld metal protruding into the tunnel. Gratis, of course.

Construction notes

1. The T-assembly at the back is made from a 5/8 aluminum shaft and 1/8 X 1 crosspiece joined by a tapped screw and aluminum solder. The rack is held on by slipping a brass tube over the rack rod (slice down a brass tube lengthwise with a Dremel abrasive saw disk (takes 1 minute), split open a bit more, squeeze over the rack rod with a Bell Labs at Murray Hill pliers (stock number P-144... what, no access to Bell Labs stockroom, pity), epoxy in place). The brass tube acts as a hinge so the rack assembly folds up.

Photographed in front of my regulated power supply for charging batteries.

2. The rack is made from billet 7529 Chalah-grade aluminum billet machined by CAD (machining file available on request). Some mathematical analysis was required in specifying what authorities refer to as "bungee catchment points." You can see four such catchment points that have been machined in proximity to the distal corners of the rack assembly. Wal-Mart sells Chalah-grade material for creating the rack — also available in chrome for the ostentatious rider or tasteless Toaster type of owner. Overall size is 355 mm wide by 254 mm deep (14 X 10).

You can see the carefully crafted bungee catchment points. Note initial epoxy application holding the slit brass tube to the aluminum crossbar.

3. The two parts that attach the rack to the cowl screw holes are cut from 2 X 2 aluminum angle, sculpted in a pleasing art-nouveau pattern.

4. In case you find yourself on a TV quiz show, the answer is "What is Corbin uses 6mm-1.0 screws to hold the cowl."

Screw with tethered washer before micro-scale application of black-pigmented anti-corrosion treatment (with a Sharpie).

The whole business weighs less than a pound. It is easily removed and restored and the seat can be removed with the rack still in place. It folds up small enough to fit into a City saddle case. While I tapped a hole for a locking bolt at the base of the 5/8 stalk under the seat pan, it doesn't add much to stability or security. By the way, sound to glue a resilient washer to the seat pan to take up the force of this bolt as it pushes on the fiberglass seat pan.