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Pulstar Spark Plugs

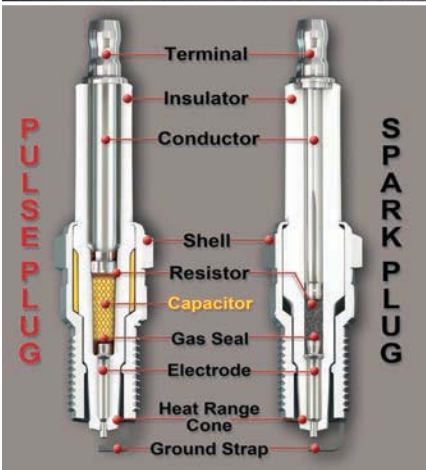
Innovation is a proud part of our American heritage. For better or for worse, there's always someone trying to reinvent the wheel. Just wander through any parts store or browse a catalog; everyone's got some way for you to pick up another



horsepower or two here or there. As Neil Taylor, an old friend and IW contributor once told me, "If all that stuff really worked, you'd be able to build a 1,000 horsepower bike in a weekend."

And as Harley-Davidson riders, we're pretty invested in our tradition. Heck, my '90's Sportster still has a wasted spark ignition, straight from the factory! So I'll admit that Pulstar's claims of more power and better fuel economy caused me to raise an eyebrow a bit. Technically speaking, Pulstar plugs have a capacitive element incorporated into their construction, which is said to store energy that can be released faster, in a more concentrated burst at the moment of ignition. The electrodes are either iridium or platinum, materials known for their long service lives in this application. Pulstar claims that their plugs will last for around 100,000 miles, making them possibly the last pair of spark plugs you'll ever need to buy.

Time will tell how long the plugs last, but they are built here in the USA, something we're always happy to hear. During regular city riding, I didn't notice a significant change in my fuel mileage, outside of the usual fluctuation of 3-5% that I chalk up to variations in riding style and weather. However, there is a small but noticeable improvement in throttle response from low RPMs; I switched the Plustar plugs back and forth with my factory plugs several times to confirm the change. My bike also starts easier when cold; it usually starts on the third or fourth revolution;



now it fires up on the first or second. If I had a kick start, I'd definitely get a pair of these plugs for that bike.

They may not provide noticeable bolt-on horsepower, but Plustar plugs are definitely an upgrade worth considering. Where else can you get the chance for a few more ponies for just a few more pennies? **IW**

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