

B-2 STEALTH BIKE

“THE SPIRIT OF INNOVATION”



Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the first flight of the B-2 stealth bomber and the successful Air Force/Northrop Grumman partnership that created and sustains this revolution in airpower.



NORTHROP GRUMMAN

B-2 STEALTH BIKE

A TRIBUTE TO A REVOLUTION IN AIRPOWER

In July, 2009, Northrop Grumman and the U.S. Air Force will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first flight of the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber. As a visual centerpiece for that year-long celebration, Northrop Grumman commissioned Orange County Choppers (OCC), the shop featured on the cable TV series "American Chopper," to design and build the world's first B-2 themed custom motorcycle.

Northrop Grumman, the Air Force's B-2 prime contractor, worked with OCC to develop and produce a bike that accurately captured the look, feel and aura of the B-2, one of the world's most unique, most survivable, and most powerful weapon systems. The bike is named "The Spirit of Innovation" to honor the innovation that Northrop Grumman and the Air Force brought to the development of the B-2, and to the innovation that underpins their bomber partnership today. The design and build of the Stealth Bike will be featured on the 2009 season premiere of "American Chopper," which airs on TLC.

The "Spirit of Innovation" is the newest member of the B-2 fleet. Its "tailnumber," 0789, represents the date of the B-2's first flight, July 17, 1989.



Many elements of the Stealth Bike reflect the B-2's "stealthy" characteristics. Its handlebars and aft deck are parallel with the leading edge of the bike's cockpit and its gas cap is flush with the gas tank surface.



Each wheel of the Stealth Bike features 10 individually machined B-2s arranged in the shape of an Air Force star. Each B-2 is engraved with a tail number corresponding to a bomber in the fleet.



Even the saddle of the B-2 Stealth Bike is "planformed aligned" with the bike's leading edge.



The gas tank and extended front cowling of the Stealth Bike are shaped to resemble the B-2's unique cockpit and fuselage. Major components are painted to match the B-2's color.



The "aft deck" of the Stealth Bike is made from titanium used on the B-2 named Spirit of Oklahoma.