

Cycle Show 2016 roundup



The ARCC e²-pod e-bike system is an interesting add-on that's small and neat. The main market is Brompton conversions, although ARCC can also fit to a Moulton or a Cinelli urban bike.* The system's USP is that it uses readily-available and reasonably cheap Bosch power tool batteries. The 36V, 4Ah battery at 144Wh isn't going to give you a huge range but it'll be enough for a city commute and the batteries are easily swappable; ARCC make a spare battery holder you can fix to your bike to double the range, or you can just sling one in your bag.

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The ARCC e²-pod was designed and engineered to be integrated with Moulton TSR, Brompton, Cinelli and Joey Airnimal bikes. (ARCC Innovations)



The system can be controlled from the battery mount via two chunky selector switches but it's also Bluetooth-enabled, so you can either run a small Bluetooth remote or use your phone with the ARCC app. The control unit also has a 4-axis accelerometer to detect gradients and give you an bit of extra help on the steep stuff. Power comes from a Bafang hub motor and there's a torque sensor in the bottom bracket. The whole system, with battery, weighs just 4.5kg.



ARCC are doing some clever stuff with Brompton bags too: using the battery mount in place of the bag mount you can fit a front bag to your Brompton with the battery neatly tucked away inside. You'd barely even notice the electrics in this configuration.



The system costs from £1,795 – you'll need to supply a bike, or pay ARCC to get you one. Complete bikes start at £2,599.