Cargo bike add-ons for all new purposes

Eco-friendly mobility

XYZ Cargo and their vision for customizable cargo bikes

OPEN! NEXT

About: XYZ CARGO

XYZ CARGO Cycles started in 2011, offering a completely new way of building cargo bikes based on a modular design: The bikes are made from aluminum profiles that are not welded but bolted together. Thus XYZ CARGO Cycles can easily be customized, repaired and recycled. With its unique modular design, XYZ CARGO also puts a strong focus on a local production in micro factories under fair and environmentally sustainable conditions.

Based in both Copenhagen and Hamburg, XYZ CARGO Cycles offers both, a wide range of ready-made cargo bikes as well as guided workshops on how to build them yourself. The design of XYZ CARGO Cycles was released under the Creative Commons license CC BY-NC-SA 3.0. One model, the easy-to-build XYZ CARGO ONESEATER, is also offered as a free DIY-manual available for download.

With this new approach, XYZ CARGO has pioneered not only the way we move things without cars, but also how our means of transport are produced in an environmentally sustainable and socially fair way.

The Challenge

The new project 'XYZ CARGO ADD-ONS' now aims at taking the open source approach one step further, and open up to new purposes for cargo bikes beyond just being a mean of transportation. XYZ CARGO ADD-ONS are functional modules that can be added on top of a cargo bike. They enable the user to easily transform a normal cargo bike into a special vehicle like a Food Bike, Sound Bike, Mobile Fab Lab, Medical Bike, Power Plant Unit or anything else that meets local needs.

All XYZ CARGO ADD-ONS are open source and co-developed with the community. They are published under CC BY-SA 4.0 - which (unlike the XYZ CARGO Cycles themselves) allows for full commercial reproduction of the XYZ CARGO add-ons. This enables new businesses to start up based on the development, local production and sales of XYZ CARGO ADD-ONS. An approach which aims at establishing a large diversity of functional cargo bike modules as well as a self-sustaining worldwide community that develops them together.

OPEN!
NEXT

Open Source Implementation

In a three-phase open call process, XYZ CARGO invited designers, makers and producers to submit their XYZ CARGO ADD-ON designs and add different functionalities to the XYZ CARGO Cycles. In doing so, XYZ CARGO is striving to build an international community of individuals, student groups and professionals that continue to co-develop those modules. XYZ CARGO in partnership with the Copenhagen makerspace MAKER, is hosting several co-design sessions in Copenhagen and Hamburg that are open to anyone who wants to discuss ideas, design together and get their hands dirty! There is also a budget for materials to help make selected XYZ CARGO add-ons.

With the XYZ CARGO MODULES, a normal cargo bike can easily be converted for many different purposes, such as a food bike, a DJ booth, a mobile laboratory or a mobile wind turbine. What's more, all XYZ CARGO MODULES are open source.

To give designers the opportunity to develop, produce and sell modules themselves, XYZ CARGO has also set out to developed the 'Give Back Program'. In the Give Back Program whoever sells a XYZ CARGO ADD-ON will donate a percentage of the profit of each sold unit to a collective fund. The fund will be redistributed to all the involved designers.

LINKS

Website

Wikifactory

Facebook

OPEN!
NEXT