



The eagle eyed among you will note Erik is using a SRAM grip-shifter for his XXI drivetrain.

NICK MUZIK/CAPE EPIC/SPORTZPICS

# Tech Out My CANYON

With Full Sus looking at MTB tech this issue **Erik Kleinhans** thought he'd share some of the technology highlights from his Canyon Lux CF and sponsored gear with you.

**M**ay is tech month for Full Sus magazine, and birthday month for me! If you promise to buy the coffee and cake, you are all welcome to come and check out my Canyon and team tech and join me for a ride on the fourth. And no, sadly I'm not really a Star Wars fanatic.

Team Topeak Ergon is based and run from Koblenz in the west of Germany. It's quite convenient because all three major sponsors: Topeak, Ergon and Canyon have their offices and warehouses there. Being an international team, we get some tech which is not available in SA, or simply not seen on our trails too often.

Since I laid my hands on my Canyon Lux CF full suspension bicycle I was content! The green and yellow colour-way matches our team kit and is so unique. Plus it's well known in SA because heroes like

Alban Lakata, Kristian Hynek, Robert Mennen and Sally Bigham racing them to Cape Epic success.

Canyon bikes can only be bought online; in fact I'm sure they were the first direct sales online brand. It makes for easy shopping from your office/couch with the added bonus of lower pricing. It is not a bike brand you can buy in SA, though slowly but surely they become more widely available outside of Europe.

My race bike is kitted out with an inverted RockShox RS-1, which even though it's slightly heavier I really enjoy it due to its stiffness under braking, smooth functioning and longer spacing between services. Long-time team sponsor, SRAM, is

responsible for the workings with XXI all over the bike. I've been racing XXI for a few years now and could not be happier with how smoothly it works. I'm even more excited to try out the new XXI Eagle 12-speed groupset now!

Also not very well known in SA, Ergon is responsible for the bum and hand contact areas. I wasn't sure if I would like the GSI grips with the flat surface, but since the first time I used them I was a changed man. Sure, they're also slightly heavier, but I use to bend my wrists a lot, blocking blood-flow and nerve function but that is a thing of the past with these really comfortable winged grips.

Topeak is quite a well-known brand in SA. They make everything from saddlebags, fenders, bike-stands, Allen keys, CO2 adapters, you name it, they got it!

The team doesn't have a set nutrition and shoe sponsor due to the fact that it is actually quite a personal choice. Thin feet, flat feet, skew toes, sweet tooth, sensitive stomachs... My shoe of choice is Northwave, I used them before and was happy to have them on my feet again as I find them comfortable, plus they're stiff and light. Cadence Nutrition kept my bottles full this year. It's designed by Dr Jeroen Swart, and boasts: "no hype, just

science". It is made locally in factories where there is no chance of cross-contamination. The flavours are light and natural. Not a day goes by without me relying on Cadence for energy.

Then Limar definitely win the slogan competition among our sponsors, with their "#ChangeToLightness"! We use the Ultralight+ helmet, the lightest helmet available in the world at a mere 210g. Considerably lighter than the big bush of a mane I have to carry around on my head! If I feel like going aero, the OO7 has me covered.

Last but not least, my coolest gadget is the SRM (Schoberer Rad Messtechnik) powermeter with the new PC8 computer. This is the mother of all bicycle powermeters, SRM brought the first power meter to market back in 1986. It is not cheap, but you can't put a price on pure class! It's very accurate and I haven't had an issue with it since the day it was fitted to my bike.

Now let's go riding and May the fourth be with you! **FS**



**Erik Kleinhans** has joined the specialist marathon racing team of Topeak Ergon, but that doesn't mean you'll be hearing any less from the Lion King. Follow

him on Twitter: @erikkleinhans, or visit [www.topeak-ergon-racing.com](http://www.topeak-ergon-racing.com).

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