

Essentials **Staff Pick**

I don't know about you, but I'm not one to let cold weather stop me from riding my motorcycle, so I am very concerned with my cold-weather gear performance. First, will it keep me warm? Second, can I still be light and flexible enough to mount my bike so I don't need to buy a crane to drop me in the saddle? Earlier this season, when the temps were hovering around 30 degrees here in Wisconsin, I found a company called Gator Skins claiming to have just the cure for all my whining. Gator Skins owner "Fat Mike" sent me a package of what appeared to be metallic long underwear; I was a bit apprehensive but gave them a spin anyway. On a cold 35-degree morning, wearing a Gator Skins top, bottom, neck liner and glove liners underneath a light jacket, T-shirt, jeans and gloves, I left for my office, a mere 53 miles from home. I was impressed — they are so much warmer than regular long underwear, and they're not bulky. Gator Skins technology was developed by DuPont researchers. The micro fabric is knitted from ultra microfibers that are incredibly thin, breathable and lighter than paper. Gator Skins allow some air to pass through while some fibers effectively hold onto warm air molecules. Gator Skins are also water-repellent, when properly fitted, due to the circuitous cross-sectional knitting and, according to Mike, they will not fray if punctured. They won't shrink, either. Great for snowmobilers alike, Gator Skins are an economical way to offer your customers warm riding gear that won't break the bank, which will only have them on the road and trails more each season. These products might make for great Christmas gifts, and Mike is looking for dealers.

—Dean Kelly, *MPN* Associate Publisher

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Editor's note: *MPN* nor Dean himself thought it necessary for him to model the Gator Skins bottom. Crisis averted.

For more info:
Gator Skins
(717) 755-7105
www.gator-skins.com