



New Access XT – 2010 model

First thing you see is the new sexy bag – similar style to the Instinct bag now in black and white with a pull strap closings and compression straps down the bag for better fit.

Inside there is a phone/wallet pocket just above a Velcro attached pocket with the manual and all the goodies in. Good idea that you can remove this and store elsewhere.

The next thing is the sheer number of changes from previous models – this is not just a facelift but a total revisit.

The colours are more down the Ozone “look” – different to the other kites but maybe I would like something a bit more individual. I suppose you can always do a custom coloured one and now there are 12 colour choices on each part it should make for some interesting versions

The cell openings now have mesh coverings to keep some of that dirt out and help those large cells retain perfect shape

There are several new pressure release valves along the inside of the canopy which are there to let the air pressure out if you are unfortunate enough to slam your kite in the ground – course I will never need them <cough>

We now have a double pulley system for extra speed as was originally used on Mantas but adds greatly to the handling on this kite.

The lines are also converted to the Y setup like Mantas and Frenzies so 3 lines at bar end means less tangles.

The first big difference I see is no clamcleat !! – after years of Ozone kites having these its quite a big change. The new style re-ride system has also been added to this kite along with adjustable bar pressure adjusters – nice to see these top end features on the Access.

Flying – well guess what the kite launched instantly and faultlessly – so something hasn't changed.

But how would it fly without that safety feature of the clamcleat ?

I had the 6m up in gusty inland conditions and it was easy to fly because it now has a much bigger depower range – push that bar out and its almost right off – very impressive. Power it in and loads of grunt as you would expect.

Haven't managed to get it out in the buggy yet but will update this as soon as I do

Meanwhile – the King is dead, long live the King