

12/2021

Press Release



MAURER RIDES - BOLT Roller Coaster Recognized With "Best of What's New" Award by Popular Science Magazine

The Proving that the first roller coaster at sea is both fun and a feat of modern engineering, *Popular Science* magazine has recognized Carnival and Maurer Rides with its "Best of What's New" engineering award for the innovation and design work that resulted in the July 2021 debut of BOLT, the first roller coaster at sea on board the line's flagship *Mardi Gras*.

Since 1988, *Popular Science* annually reviews thousands of new products and innovations and chooses the top 100 winners across 10 categories. To win, a product or technology must represent a significant step forward in its category.

"Normal roller coasters use gravity to send thrill-seekers zooming and looping. But if you want to build a ride on a cruise ship—where stable, level ground is far from guaranteed—you have to get creative," according to *Popular Science*.

"As you're whipping around the *Mardi Gras*' funnel while riding BOLT, I doubt many people are thinking about how we got the roller coaster built, but this recognition from *Popular Science* underscores the tremendous work that went into making this happen," said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line. "While ultimately, we're about providing new ways for our guests to have fun, we're also honored and appreciative of this incredible recognition for our team."

A marvel in maritime engineering, BOLT is an all-electric roller coaster encompassing an elevated track across *Mardi Gras*' upper decks with 800 feet of exhilarating twists, drops and turns, including hairpin turn around the ship's iconic funnel. Riders can achieve speeds of up to 40 miles per hour as they enjoy views to the sea 187 feet below.

Patented Spike® drive

Technically, the whole thing is based on the innovative and patented Spike® drive from MAURER Rides. Spike® is, in simple terms, a further developed gear drive. Its special feature is that it turns roller coaster passengers into real riders. They can brake or accelerate themselves anywhere on the track, with 100% traction and 1.2 g of propulsion.

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Established in 1872, *Popular Science* is one of America's oldest and most trusted magazine brands with a legacy of bringing readers groundbreaking innovations and discoveries.

Sister ships to *Mardi Gras*, *Carnival Celebration* and *Carnival Jubilee* will also feature BOLT: The Ultimate Sea Coaster when they debut in late 2022 in Miami and in 2023 in Galveston, Tex., respectively.

For additional information on Maurer Rides, visit www.maurer-rides.de

The video gives a first impression: <https://youtu.be/llzqhR9gw8E>

Popular Science: <https://www.popsci.com/>

Technical Information:

Launch date:	2021
Coaster type:	Spike® Racing
Track length:	220 m
Footprint:	84 x 33 m
Height above sea level:	57 m
Drive:	Electric drive
Propulsive acceleration:	1.2 g (11.7m/s ²)
Torque:	1050 Nm
Power transmission:	100 % traction
Max. Speed:	60 km/h
Vehicle:	2-seater in motorcycle design
Number of vehicles:	2



[Maurer Rides Bolt – 1st roller coaster at sea](#)

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