

TECHNOLOGY: PAST AND FUTURE

WINNING WITH TECHNOLOGY & PRECISION

WINNING

Starboard has set the pace in board technology and performance for over a decade. Last season winnings includes the 2 first places in the prestigious Tahiti leg of the Waterman league on stock AST wave boards, the 11 city Tour on a stock K15 (the worlds longest paddle board race), the Maui to Molokai race, the British series, the Australian events and several class victories in the Battle of The Paddle. Starboard is holding the speed record for windsurfing at 49.09 knots and has been winning the Professional Windsurfer Association's manufacturers ranking 5 years in a row.

AHEAD OF ITS TIME

Starboard now brings the Worlds first full Carbon PVC sandwich wave boards into the market and introduced precision molded wood veneer "Green" boards already back in 1995, the first EVA deck grip surf and windsurf boards went to the market the same year. Starboard is taking the lead in the whole wide and short board revolution in Stand Up Paddleboarding by offering boards up to 39" in width and down to 6'6" in length. 2 years ago we brought the stand on top kayak concept to the market with integration of kayaking and Windsurfing in the K15. We are proud to work with Jim Drake who not only designed the currently fastest manned plane, the X15, 40 years ago, the Starboard K15 last year, but also co-invented windsurfing back in 1967. Thanks also to our watermen/designers Scott McKercher, Svein Rasmussen, Brian Szymanski, Peter Cox, product manager Andrew Miller and chief shaper Nimit Promjan. Our experience helps us understand that the only way to stay ahead is to work harder and more efficient, year after year.

PRECISION; EACH MILIMETER COUNTS

With 16 years of experience in cutting edge windsurf development, Starboard sets the very highest precision standard. Critical segments like rockerlines, rails, V shapes, concaves and board thickness are carefully monitored and checked throughout the production process. As we are located only 45 minutes away from our main supplier we are able to follow up on production on a daily basis.

STARTOUCH

2 years ago Starboard introduced the non abrasive deck traction Startouch. This new traction texture ended the need for surf wax and is now used in Brushed Carbon, the TAC wood line and in AST Blue and White, introducing a new era in surfing functionality and simplicity.

RAW MATERIAL INFO

EPOXY or polyepoxide is a thermosetting epoxide polymer that cures (polymerizes and crosslinks when mixed with a catalyzing agent or hardener). Most common epoxy resins are produced from a reaction between epichlorohydrin and bisphenol-A. Starboard uses high grade Epoxy resin for laminate bonding in all boards.

PVC is the first foam material specifically formulated for a marine environment and is a poly vinyl chloride (PVC), isocyanate blend. Starboard uses the high strength PVC foam in Brushed carbon sandwich boards and around all insert areas in all boards.

PINE WOOD Starboard uses 0.6 mm 510 kg /m³ Australian Pine veneer. This very consistent uni directional natural resin rich wood grain has a quality of light weight, low epoxy uptake and good impact resistance.

EPS or Expandable Polystyrene contains 95% air and 5% polystyrene. The blowing agent used for EPS Foam is Pentane gas which does not contain any chlorine atoms as CFC's. The EPS production processes begins in the pre-expansion process where the EPS beads expands 50 times in volume by the heat of steam, forming according to the shape of the EPS mold. Starboard uses fused EPS as foam core in all SUP boards.

FIN DEVELOPMENT

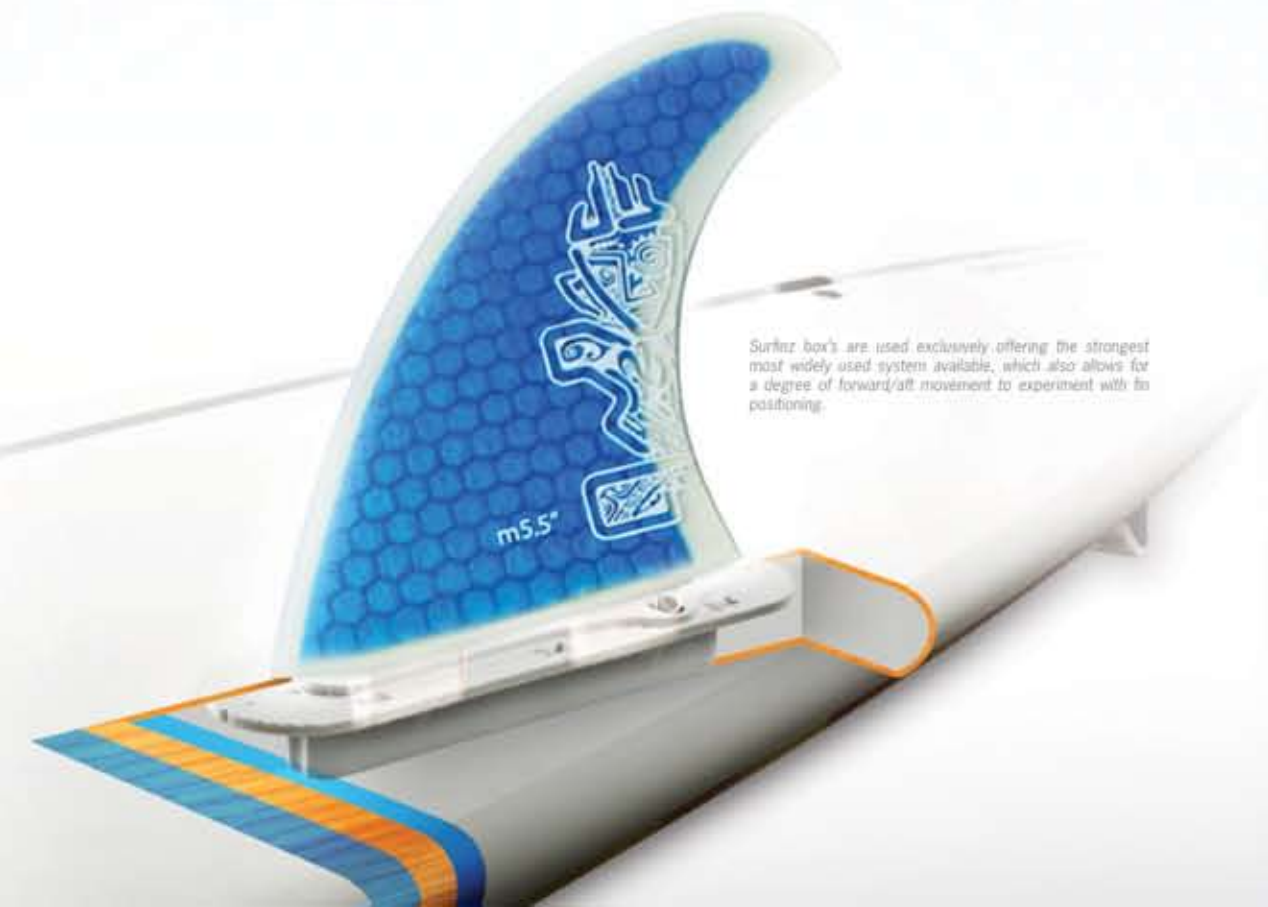
There are two types of materials used in the fins throughout the Starboard range.

Factors of a fins design which are critical include, base width (drive for acceleration) depth (Grip/Hold) sweep (pivot) and foil (speed/drive). These culminate to provide the ultimate blend of a fin's characteristics suited to each particular board.

Obviously different boards require different fin configurations which are ultimately suited best to each, whether it be quad or tri (sometimes both), as well as with various sizes (Lengths and widths). It has been with great care that the best combination has been tested for each of the boards through out the range. (Obviously people's body weight will come into effect to some extent).

The Hexcel composite fins are designed to maintain the flex characteristics of a fibreglass fin, whilst reducing the weight, but also maintaining strength. It has been found that an optimum response/flex for SUP's of shorter length and larger waves are these stiffer Hexcel fins for instant response.

The injection moulded (PA+GF 30%) fins provide the added flex found suitable for larger boards and smaller surf for a smoother sensation through the arc of a cutback.



Surfbox's are used exclusively offering the strongest most widely used system available, which also allows for a degree of forward/aft movement to experiment with fin positioning.