

ELLIOTT / PATTISON SAILMAKERS, INC.

Capri 25 Update – Load Path Sails Fall 2007

Due to manufacturing problems Challenge Sailcloth has a limited supply of the PinStripe aramid fabric available this year, and it is only be in the lighter weight. We have their entire remaining inventory available to us which is enough to make about 10 155% genoas. Without the heavier weight we can't make any heavier headsails or mainsails.

The good news is that we are offering all our Capri 25 sails in our new Load Path construction, and they are lower priced than the tri-radial PinStripe sails. They are also made with a blend of carbon and aramid Load Path yarns which does give them better longevity than an all aramid laminated sail. I don't know if they will last quite as long as the PinStripe aramid sails, but we do expect to see them stay very competitive for 2 to 3 seasons in the genoas and 3 to 4 seasons in a mainsail. These expectations or based on how well sails we have built have done with 1 full season of use; it is impossible to say how they will do with more use than that until we have sails that have been used longer time periods.

The Load Path sails are somewhat similar to the D4 membrane sails. We design the sail like any other we build and then send that design to the laminating facility in Florida. We specify what base fabric we want and the type and density of the Load Path yarns to be applied. The sails are designed as cross cut sails which saves time and cost with both materials and labor. They are cut out, assembled into the completed membrane, and then the Load Path yarns are laminated on top. They are continuous yarns that run from corner to corner and corner to edge to fully support the membrane and lock in the shape.

These sails are slightly heavier than a D4 membrane sail, because the yarn passes are laminated on top of the membrane, but are coming in at about the same weight as a tri-radial sails. Because of their performance and price we believe that this type of sail is going to largely replace traditional tri-radial sails over the next few years.

We have more information and pictures of the Load Path sails on our web site at www.epsails.com, or you can contact me for any more information. In addition to the PinStripe and Load Path sails we are also able to again offer the D4 sails at a special price this fall because Dimension Sailcloth is offering a discount to us for any membranes ordered before the end of November.

Sincerely,

Harry Pattison
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