

Hooper Racing Sails

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Back by Popular Demand - STS (Structural Tape Sails)

Our Structural Tape Sails are derived from the original "airframe" concept invented by Peter Conrad. This concept was later developed by the UK Halsey group as Tape Drive[®] sails. Structural Tape Sails use the same construction techniques as Tape Drive[®] sails but with enhanced tape adhesive properties.



Hooper's new line of STS (Structural Tape Sails) offer high tech, straight line load path sails at unbeatable prices.

STS sails offer a lightweight, strong and durable alternative to radial laminate sails and are price competitively below our premium load path MXL membrane sails.

CONSTRUCTION

The construction is a 2 part process utilising a Kevlar or Polyester cross cut base fabric to form an aerofoil skin with continuous Technora load bearing fibres mounted on tapes laminated on both sides after the sail has been seam bonded. The Technora tapes are laid directly onto the sail surface using a computer generated load path layout.

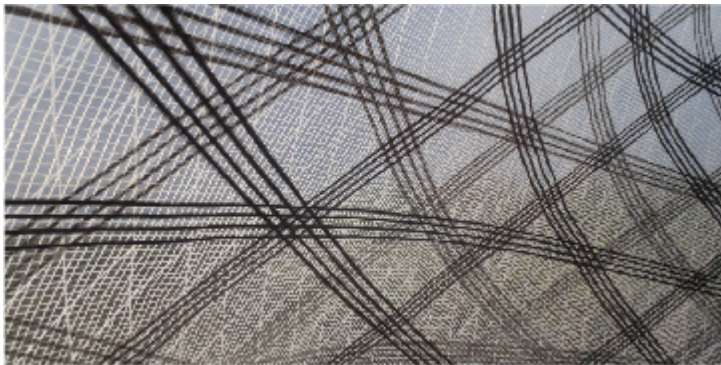
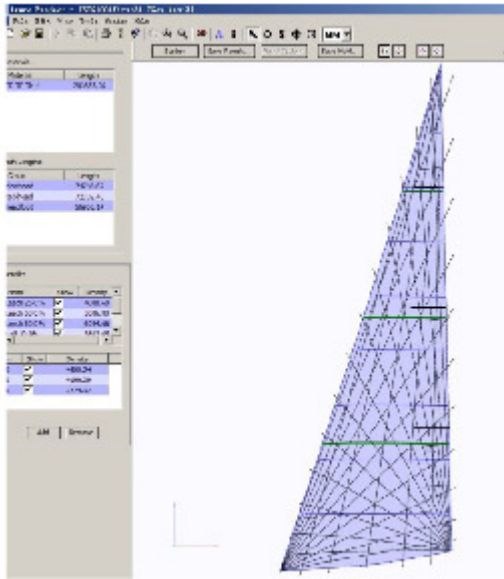
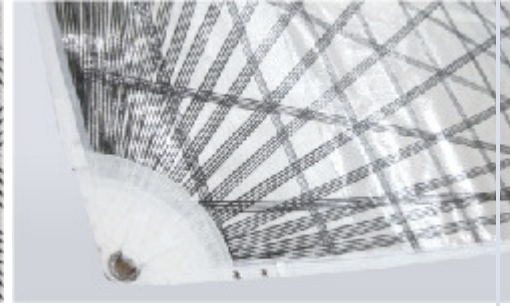
LOAD CARRYING TAPES

Primary load paths are carried by the Technora tapes whilst the secondary stresses and Leech to Luff horizontal loads are addressed by the base skin. Seam creep is virtually zero since the horizontal seams are very lightly loaded.

DURABILITY

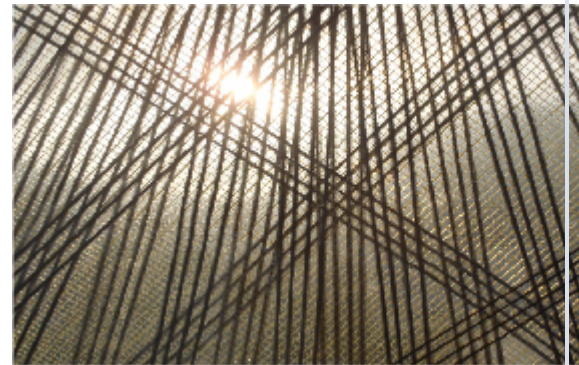
Structural Tape Sails are extremely durable. The bases are rugged yet light, with well balanced crosscut constructions. The Technora tapes create a grid structure which is extremely strong. This grid also creates a rip-stop across the sail preventing the spread of tear, puncture or chafe damage, making a virtually indestructible sail which is easy to repair.

Typical Detailing in a Structural Tape Headsail



POLYESTER

BASE with Technora tapes



BASE with Technora tapes