## **Case Study**





# **Hydrofoil Board Mast Base**

### inquiry

Hydrofoil Boards are growing increasingly popular with water sports enthusiasts. They combine the design and maneuverability of a surfboard with the speed of a motorized hydrofoil. The hydrofoil mast extends below the board and under the water, where a small motor provides enough speed to lift the board and rider off of the surface of the water. The mast is connected to the main board by use of a mast base that bears the stress of water resistance on the mast and the shifting weight of the rider's balance. Due to their use, the mast base and foil board itself must be strong, lightweight and able to withstand the harsh environment of saltwater and prolonged UV exposure.



Foil Board Mast Base

#### idea

Since metals are dense and degrade quickly when exposed to repeated immersion in water, they are not the best choice of materials for hydrofoil board components. IDI Composites International's new line of Ultrium<sup>™</sup> carbon fiber STC<sup>®</sup> however, was the perfect compliment for this unique product. Thermoset composites are naturally resistant to mild corrosive environments like saltwater and suffer no ill effects when

repeatedly submerged. Additionally, they are strong enough to bear the constant flexural burden of a hydrofoil balancing a rider atop a two to three foot mast.

### innovation

Performance wasn't the only factor to consider when IDI's 3i Composites Technology Center helped determine the right material solution for the job. Since the mast is a visible component of a foil board and the mast base connects the mast to the board, it needed to look good too. The natural choice to meet the requirements was IDI's Ultrium<sup>™</sup> carbon fiber STC<sup>®</sup> composite material. The use of a carbon fiber material ensures that the mast base on these boards not only provides more than enough strength for the heaviest of riders in the choppiest of water conditions, but that it also looks great!









- Carbon prepreg compatibility
- High strength to weight ratio
- For complex geometric applications requiring performance optimized high stiffness and low weight



<b>Ultrium<sup>™</sup> - Carbon Fiber Composites</b> Structural Thermoset Composites STC <sup>®</sup> - Ultra Performance Moldable Composites - Sheet Form	
	Ultrium™ STC <sup>®</sup> 4660 EMC
Resin System	Fast Cure Epoxy
Reinforcement	Carbon Fiber
Flexural Strength Test Method: ASTM D790	609 MPa
Flexural Modulus Test Method: ASTM D790	36 GPa
Tensile Strength Test Method: ASTM D638	301 MPa
Tensile Modulus Test Method: ASTM D638	38 GPa
Specific Gravity Test Method: ASTM D792	1.44
Reinforcement Content WT%	60%
Reinforcement Length	25mm
T(g) Tan Delta	150°C

**The information on this sheet is a guide**. The stated values reflect an average of several tests conducted on Composites International's (CI's) goods. These values were obtained under ideal conditions and may not be replicated in any particular test, part, or application. Because the values achieved in actual parts depend considerably on part design, molding conditions, and testing methods, no guarantee is made or implied regarding values to be obtained in any specific test, part, or application. CI makes no warranty or representation as to the suitability of any of its goods for use in any application. CI relies on customer to conduct its own tests and judge for itself the suitability of CI's goods.

