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NEWS FOR FARRIERS

FootPro™ Sandbox: Hoof and Shoe Finishing Tool

The FootPro™ Sandbox hoof and shoe finishing tool is now available. This is a nicely designed and well-built tool; most commonly used by competitors and for show horses. The first model available has a pad on one side only, and is used for finishing shoes and the hoof. In the near future, one that features a pad on both sides of the tool will be available. This style will be used most frequently for the hoof.

« Ready for use, just put the handle of your choice on tang

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The Generosity of the Farrier Industry

Recently, FPD participated in a clinic held for the benefit of Chris Overly; a farrier who was seriously injured in an accident. In addition to the clinic, many farriers donated handmade items for an auction that was held at the end of the day. The proceeds of the day went to the Derby City Injured Farrier Fund for the benefit of Chris. We see this generosity in the industry over and over again when someone has been injured or is ill. There are many injured farrier funds established within local and national organizations and, at any time, you will see events like the Overly Clinic, held to help raise funds. The Horseshoe Barn held an auction at their November clinic to raise funds for a farrier and many other stores have done the same. We are proud of the way this industry comes together when someone is in need and happy to participate whenever we can. You can view photos from the recent Overly Benefit Clinic on our Facebook page at facebook.com/farrierproductdistribution, Instagram page at instagram.com/fpdinc and our homepage at www.farrierproducts.com. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to show their support for Chris Overly and our industry.



New Products in 2016

Bellota Razor Plus Rasp Replaces the Razor

The new Bellota Razor Plus rasp is replacing the previous Razor. It is everything the Razor rasp was – and more. After a great deal of time in development and testing, Bellota is now producing the Razor Plus. Using a higher grade material for the Razor Plus, it has proven in farrier testing to have a longer life. In addition, the tooth design is more aggressive and requires only a very light stroke in the early stages of using the rasp.

Here is what professional farriers are saying about the new Bellota Razor Plus:

"This is a pretty dang good rasp! I liked it very much. The file side is sharp and the rasp side is good, and didn't scar the horses' feet. It worked really well. When I used the second one, I found it to be just as good as the first." - Eddie Williams, Kentucky

"The RAZOR Plus is awesome! It lasted a long time for me."

- Matt Lybeck, Wisconsin

"I've used the RAZOR Plus on 100 horses so far. It's the best I've seen yet. The smooth side is really smooth and the rough side is really aggressive. It doesn't clog like the last one."

- Ed Reardon, Missouri

"I have probably worked on over 200 horses (shoeing and trims) with this RAZOR Plus and it is still working well as a finish rasp. Thanks for letting me test it. I will switch to the RAZOR Plus when I use up the Save Edge rasps I already have."

- George Scott, Oklahoma

"The Razor Plus is the best I've used in a long time. I've been using the Heller GR8AT and liked them when they first came out, but they are no longer any good. I only get one or two days max out of them. The Razor Plus lasted me a week and I shoe 8-12 horses per day with a helper."

- Brandon Guillot, Louisiana

"I really like the RAZOR Plus. It held up well and did a nice job for me. I will use this rasp."

- Bobby Menker, Kentucky

"The RAZOR Plus is a very good rasp. I love it. I've done a lot of horses with it and it has held up well. I will buy more."

- Dennis Passa, Minnesota

Kerckhaert Nail Hole Solution

This new hoof care product was formulated specifically to treat old nail holes. When used regularly, Kerckhaert Nail Hole Solution forms a permanent barrier between the environment and healthy hoof tissue so old nail holes stay clean.

Liberty 5 City, 5 Slim and 5 Slim XL with Notched Head "Smart Guide" Design

The Liberty 5 City, 5 Slim and 5 Slim XL are now being manufactured with a notched head, "Smart Guide" design. This new feature will help with the location of the front of the nail while shoeing.

Visit www.farrierproducts.com/newprod.html to view other new products from 2016.

SHOEING FOR FORM, FUNCTION AND NO PRESSURE

Doug Workman, CJF

This is a show Hunter that has just finished a long show season. He has come into my life for a little light training and to let mind, body and feet have a much needed break. The life of a show horse being what it is, the farriers that work on them during the show season really have their hands full keeping these horses showing and sound. The fact that the horses have limited turnout, two to three baths a day and a variety of footing to deal with makes keeping them sound a tough job. My hat is off to these farriers.

I was very fortunate on this day to have my good friend, Patrick Bone, to help me. Patrick and I have been working together a long time and I consider it a privilege to have him work with me on any horse. Normally we would be in a hurry to get done so we could take the rest of the day to go fishing, but the boat was in the shop for repair. So we pulled out the camera, put on our aprons and dove in.

The first thing we looked at is the overall conformation of the horse and how he is shod. He is not the straightest legged horse we had ever seen, but we both have seen worse. You can also see where he has been nerved in the past. He was shod just as you would expect, a little extra foot and a hunter fit (spot on). Since we had the luxury of a break from show biz we could think in terms of more support and gathering up the feet. We just want to make sure that we put the foot in the center of the leg and the foot and leg in the center of the shoe.

The front feet were shod in aluminum as all hunters are and fit spot on. A very safe job. After removing the shoes and removing the dead sole we trim the frog removing any dirt traps and finding the true apex of the frog (where the frog meets the live sole). We now use the trimmed frog as the foundation to start our trim. My goal is to have the widest part of the foot parallel with each other approximately 1/2" to 3/8" behind the true apex of the frog after the trim. Also, I want to be as equal as possible medially and laterally across this same point (widest part of the foot). The heels should be equal length and back as close to the highest and widest part of the frog as I can get. The main thing that I keep in mind is that these are goals and I do not want to over prep the feet to achieve them.

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Above: Various Views prior to shoeing, notice signs of nerving procedure in image to far left.

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After I have trimmed the feet as close to this protocol as I can, I will use the shoe choice and placement to compensate for any deviations that I come across. For this horse we decided to go to steel to give a more stable base of support since we are fitting with a little more length and width. To compensate for having more foot medially or laterally, I fit the shoe as if both halves are equal and box and safe the shoe on the narrow side. This is not always possible due to environment or job, but you can generally give a little help. To address anterior/posterior deviations I start at the widest part of the foot again. I want to have equal amount of foot in front of and behind this point. I'm not a big proponent of totally unloading the toe wall of the foot. I generally set my shoes back a little, but I want the toe wall bearing and supporting weight. As you can see on these feet the white line appears stretched or stressed. By using the widest part of a properly trimmed foot as a landmark, I do not have to guess where to put my toe, it gives me a destination.

Once again these are goals that I'm trying to achieve, not hard and fast rules. By having a set foundation to work from, I'm better able to see the successes or failures of my work.

- 4 Trimmed frog to locate true apex
- 5, 6, 7 Trimmed to reach goals for balance and form
- 8, 9 On ground we can evaluate angles and alignment
- 10, 11, 12, 13 Shod with SX-8 clipped steel, notice additional support of fit in 12 and 13

