

NOW AVAILABLE



Diamond Drop Blade Knives

The Diamond Drop Blade Knives are now available:



- Coated, razor sharp blade
- Makes hoof trimming efficient, especially with horses that have a deep, cup-shaped sole
- Features a textured, ergonomically shaped hardwood handle
- Available in right and left handed models



Liberty 8 Combo Nail

The new Liberty 8 Combo nail features:



- A slightly larger head than the Liberty 8 Regular nail
- Is a good option for the draft and gaited horse markets
- Length is 67mm

Find an FPD dealer near you online at farrierproducts.com/locations.

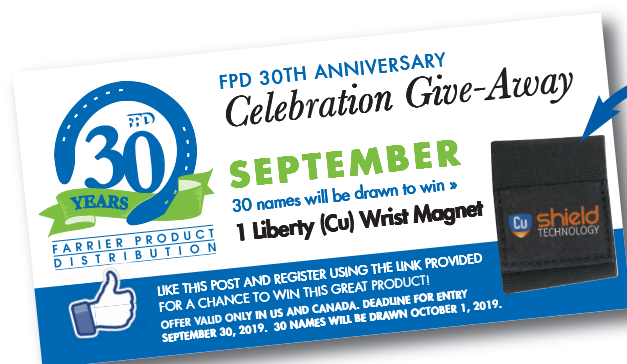
FPD 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FACEBOOK GIVE-AWAY



September » Liberty (Cu) Wrist Magnet

As a show of our appreciation to the farrier industry, we will be conducting a drawing each month on Facebook. Thirty names will be drawn each month to receive the free item for that month. **During the month of September, the giveaway item will be one Liberty (Cu) Wrist Magnet.**

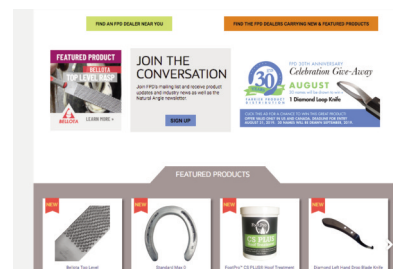
Follow FPD on Facebook @farrierproductdistribution to see what we're offering in the current month. This giveaway is only valid in the U.S. and Canada.



Look for posts like this one on Facebook @farrierproductdistribution and register for a chance to win the monthly free give-away.

New and Featured Product Section Now on Website

Check out our new section available on the homepage at www.farrierproducts.com to view exciting new and featured products. Product details and a link to dealers who are carrying these featured products can be found on the web site.



SUSPENSORY SHOE MODIFICATIONS

By David Farley, CF APF-I

WHILE THERE IS NO RESEARCH TO PROVE THIS MODIFICATION IS 100% EFFECTIVE, MANY VETERINARIANS PRESCRIBE AND WANT THIS MODIFICATION ON HORSES WITH SUSPENSORY LIGAMENT AND SUPERFICIAL FLEXOR SPRAINS AND OR STRAINS. THIS MODIFICATION IS BELIEVED TO RELIEVE THE TENSION OF THESE STRUCTURES TO FACILITATE HEALING, OR AT LEAST KEEPS THE HORSE IN THE RING COMPETING.

Let me begin with a simple reminder that the suspensory is different than the deep flexor. We have all been taught to support deep flexor tendons with a bar shoe of extra heel length. I still do this today when necessary; however, I rarely have deep flexor issues with synthetic footing.

Today's rings or arenas with synthetic type footings are very sticky and provide more traction than most farriers can imagine. Horses working or showing in synthetic footing have little depth compared to dirt or sand. The foot lands and sticks with minimum slide or sinking like dirt or sand. Therefore, as you can imagine, without the heels sinking when the weight of the horse loads a limb, the pastern drops dramatically. The higher the heel the more exaggerated the pastern drop.

For this reason many veterinarians are prescribing Suspensory Shoes. The trainers that have horses with suspensory issues also have a desire to apply anything that can keep the horse going without time off.

These are the steps I take to modify the Kerckhaert DF Select hind or the SX-7 or SX-8 hind shoes for suspensory issues. I usually start with a shoe one size smaller than what fits the trimmed foot. The toe modification will add at least one size to the shoe.

Step 1: Take a good heat and, with the shoe ground side up, use the horn to draw the inside web to the desired width.

Step 2: Again, with the ground side of the shoe up, using the face of the anvil draw the toe out to the desired width.

Step 3: Fit the shoe to the foot, then grind the inside and outside branches of the shoe to allow the heels to sink in the footing.

Modifying the shoe by forging adds no weight to the toe. I personally don't like adding more weight to the toe by welding an insert to make a suspensory shoe unless the horse is not being exercised or in work.

The challenge you face in establishing good hoof and limb balance is lessened when you develop your overall perspective of the limb. These reference points are a good guide to help with that effort. It's nearly impossible to accomplish your goal of achieving good balance when looking only at the hoof when in working position. We've found these points of reference to be invaluable in our everyday work. We look forward to going into more detail on the variations we see in these reference points in the video series and future articles.



Kerckhaert DF
Select hind shoe
with ground surface
up. Start forging the
inside web toward
you.



**Finish the forging on
the face of the anvil.**



**Check to see if
you forged to
the desired
width.**



**Heels ground to
allow them to sink
in the surface.**



Applied to foot.
Note the medial
heel is ground
slightly narrower.



**Using an SX-7,
you can accomplish a
similar result but
with less metal
you may not get
the desired width.**



Final forging of the SX-7 on face of anvil.



Medial heel ground to allow for sinking in the surface.