FARRIER PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION

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NEWS FOR FARRIERS

KERCKHAERT DURA MAX
TWO STYLES IN ONE

The Dura Max combines features of the Kerckhaert Standard Max and Kerckhaert Dura Plain shoe styles into one.

The Kerckhaert Dura Max has a full, thick toe and a hybrid width of stock between the original stock sizes of the Dura Plain and Standard Max, as well as increased thickness. The 3/8" thickness, width of stock, deep V-crease, and clean punching makes this an excellent shoe for modifications and extra wear. Best nail choice: Liberty 5 City, 5 Combo or 5 Slim.

CLEAN PUNCHING

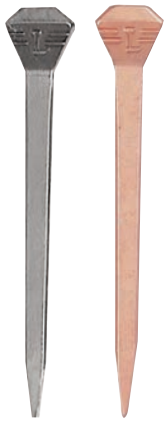
FULL, THICK TOE

DEEP V-CREASE

INCREASED STOCK WIDTH

JUST A REMINDER

Liberty 5 Slim Nails



Slim blade nails are used primarily for riding horses. The slimmer blade is preferred by many farriers because it displaces less hoof and reduces damage to the wall. The head sizes are often the same as their City head counterpart because they are being used in the same shoes. Available in Steel and (Cu) Copper Shield. This technology provides more protection than traditional horseshoe nails.

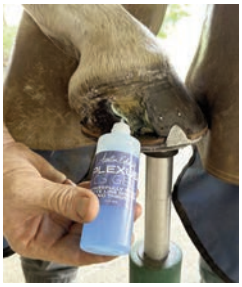
For more information on Liberty Nails, visit www.farrierproducts.com.

Bloom Hot Fit Lock Tong

The Bloom Forge Hot Fit Lock Tong has a ring at the rein end to lock the tong reins together when on a shoe.

This allows the user to check the fit of the shoe and set the shoe and tong down without losing the grip on the shoe. The tong end is set for 5/16" stock so it can be used as a fire tong if desired when shaping and modifying shoes. 14" long.

Plexus CS Gel



Plexus CS Gel has been developed by Austin Edens to help treat white line and other bacterial/fungal issues in the horse's foot. The gel formula contains copper sulfate and vinegar in a ratio that makes it an effective treatment and preventative product.

FIND AN FPD DEALER NEAR YOU AT FARRIERPRODUCTS.COM/LOCATIONS

SAVE THE DATES:
FPD Sponsored Clinics and AFA Convention

The **Farrier Hub 2nd Annual Spring Clinic** will be held March 7, 2026 in Cave Creek, Arizona, with Clinician Austin Edens, CJF. For more information, visit www.farrierproducts.com/events.

The **Ken Davis & Sons Farrier Clinic** will be held March 14, 2026 in Richwood, Ohio, with Clinicians Bobby Menker and Steve Stanley. For more information, visit www.farrierproducts.com/events.

The **American Farrier's Association 54th Annual Convention** will be held March16-20, 2026 in Little Rock, Arkansas. For more information, visit www.americanfarriers.org/page/2026-convention-home.

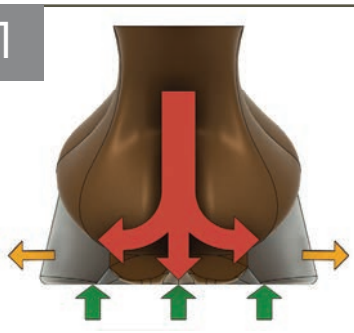
Venous Plexus Engagement with Frog Support Illustrated with CAD

By Austin Edens, CJF

SHOEING WITH FROG SUPPORT HAS GAINED TRACTION IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WITH ITS PRIMARY BENEFIT FOR CAUDAL SUPPORT OF THE HOOF CAPSULE. We have many tools at our disposal to combat caudal failure in the hoof capsule, such as heart bars, frog-support pads, DIM, pour-ins, etc. Anecdotally, I often observe an extra amount of hoof growth after applying these measures. This accelerated growth can be explained by the additional frog support increasing engagement of the venous plexus in the caudal region of the hoof.

Horses evolved with the frog as a weight-bearing structure. On a barefoot hoof, the frog synchronously engages the ground with the heels during the loading phase of the stride. One negative effect of shoeing horses with a regular shoe is that the frog of a shod hoof bears less weight and has less ground contact than its barefoot counterpart. For the vast majority of horses, this slight decrease in frog function has a negligible effect on the health of the foot. However, there is a substantial portion of the sport horse population that experience caudal collapse of the structures that are vital for nurturing blood flow in the venous plexus. These compromised feet can benefit from the additional frog and caudal support by increasing blood flow via the venous plexus and its supporting structures of the hoof capsule.

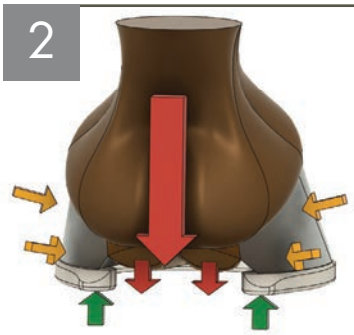
1



UNSHOD HOOF

The load of the bony column (red arrows) colliding with the ground reaction forces (green arrows), and creating outward pressure on the heels (yellow arrows) due to the increased hydraulic pressure of the caudal region. On a barefoot hoof, compression of the frog and digital cushion initiate simultaneously with the heels when contacting the ground, thus maximizing the hemodynamic function of the venous plexus.

2



SHOD HOOF WITH A REGULAR SHOE

The load of the bony column (red arrows) shearing against the ground reaction forces (green arrows), and creating inward and forward pressure on the heels (yellow arrows) due to the higher GRF on the heels. There is a delayed and reduced GRF on the frog and digital cushion.

3

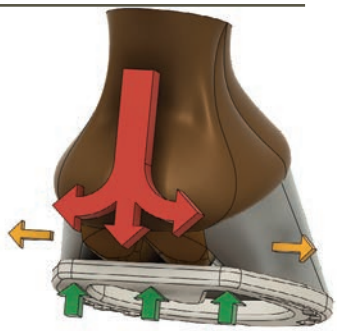
SHOD HOOF WITH A WELD-IN FROG PLATE

A weld-in frog plate on a Kerckhaert DF with FootPro™ DIM 20 is one of my go-tos for increasing caudal support and optimizing venous plexus function.

4

SHOD HOOF WITH FROG SUPPORT (HEART BAR)

This is the best of both worlds. The foot has the protection and support of a shod foot and the hemodynamic function of the venous plexus of a barefoot hoof.

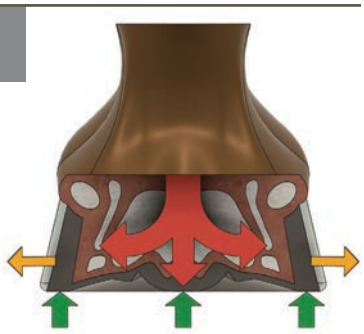


5

CAUDAL CROSS-SECTION

Caudal cross-section view with digital cushion and collateral cartilages.

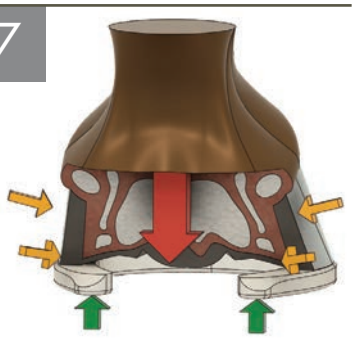
6



LOADING FORCES ON AN UNSHOD FOOT

Caudal cross-section view of loading forces on an unshod foot. Compression of the frog and digital cushion push against the collateral cartilages to pump blood up through the venous plexus.

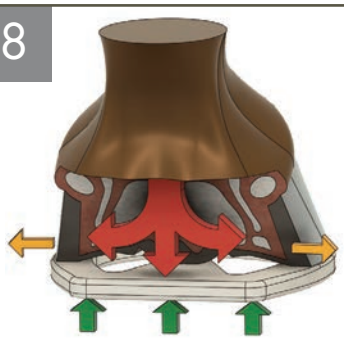
7



LOADING FORCES ON FOOT WITH A REGULAR SHOE

Caudal cross-section view of loading forces of a foot with a regular shoe. Some frog and digital cushion compression is lost due to less GRF on its palmar structures.

8



LOADING FORCES ON A FOOT WITH A HEART BAR SHOE

Caudal cross-section view of loading forces of a foot with a heart bar shoe. Frog and digital cushion compression is restored on a shod foot with the addition of frog support (heart bar).

Watch videos of Austin Edens' Plexus Caudal Support Pads in action at https://tinyurl.com/plexuspads

KERCKHAERT

Austin Edens PLEXUS PERFORMANCE PADS

This article is from ***The Natural Angle Volume 19, Issue 2***. For more **Natural Angle** articles and tips, visit www.farrierproducts.com/natural-angle.