

Basic Detail Report

00017968

Title

Sail batten from COLORBOND

Date

1985

Primary Maker

Blue Streak

Medium

Fibreglass, plastic

Dimensions

Overall: 0.5 kg

Name

Sail batten

History

COLORBOND was developed by two aeronautical engineers and a naval architect on behalf of BHP. Some research and development was undertaken in the United States with hydrodynamic computer simulation and stress analysis being completed in Australia. The high-tech hull has a composite sandwich construction outer skin of Nomex paper honeycomb core material. The hull was then baked and cured with a carbon fibre cloth. A carbon fibre frame gives the hull rigidity and strength. The skiff has carbon fibre wings, alloy mast and boom, a selection of Kevlar/Mylar sails, and a lightweight Dacron spinnaker. The retractable spinnaker pole is made of Nomex and carbon fibre. This construction technique further reduced hull weight without sacrificing overall strength. This method of construction, like the boat's design, relies on technology that has evolved in the aeronautical industry. The thing that has become obvious about 18-footers is that their development is only limited by the imaginations of the men who design, sail and build what became the fastest mono hulled class in the world.