

*"They're just so impressive - the lack of weight."
 "Holding power for weight is phenomenal. Nothing on the market comes close."*

*"It's sweet!
 I love the grip without excessive rope wear,
 plus heaps of mounting options; and it's
 mega light - every gram counts!"*

Rohan Veal – Blade Rider Pilot

ORBITBLOCK™

Orbit Blocks™ represent the future of racing sailboat hardware. The choice of the world's best racing sailors, they offer a no-compromise solution.

Their flexible Dyneema® Link technology comes from the latest trends in development classes and grand prix ocean racing. The product of meticulous engineering, they deliver the ultimate in strength, weight saving, holding power and control.

Advanced fibre and polymer technology that is up to ten times stronger than steel delivers a product that is more compact and lighter too.

Through 3D modelling, Finite Element stress analysis and mould flow analysis, our engineers made sure that everything performs both in the laboratory and in the real world.

Months of on-water testing by elite sailors pushed the product to their limits. After further strengthening and fine-tuning, they're now ready for you to test for yourself.

Darren Bundock & Glenn Ashby – Olympic Tornado, F18 & A-Class World Champions

*"There's not much gear on a Laser that you can change. But when it comes with a Ronstan ratchet, why would you?!
 - I never sail without it."*

"We've been making custom lightweight blocks for years. Now there's no need. These blocks are super light with great holding power. We go with manual mode on the main and auto on the kite"

Tom Slingsby – Laser, World Champion

Photo - Andrea Francolini, www.afrancolini.com

Photo - Jeff Crow, www.sportlibrary.com.au

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Less friction, ultimate performance

Ball Bearing Orbit Blocks™ boast the highest strength-to-weight ratio available.

This is achieved through all-composite reinforced polymer materials and a Dyneema® rope link head.

Their precision design allows the optimum number of ball bearings in loaded areas and eliminates them in inactive areas. Ineffective mass is reduced even further through fibre-reinforced composites in the block head, cleat arms and becketts.

Lightweight

Kilogram for kilogram of working load, BB and RT Orbit Blocks™ are the world's lightest. To gain peak performance, we engineered out the heavy steel load straps, head post, shackle, full-length fasteners, and cleating accessories. Through extensive research and development, we replaced virtually all metal components with high-tech polymers and fibre equivalents.

The unique orbital design allows the bearing to only be in the active areas of the floating sheave. This minimises the mass of the inactive return race and hub.

Weight and bulk are further reduced in the different block configurations. The ball bearing single and becket block has a through-sheave becket arrangement. The result? The lowest weight possible.

Multi-sheave blocks have only single intermediate cheeks and an ultra-light and efficient head arrangement. This gives a 30% weight saving advantage over the nearest competitor. Other brands just link together their single blocks. This results in unnecessary double cheeks between each sheave, held together by a heavy steel channel across the top of the block.

Highest working load in its class

The orbital ball-bearing arrangement gives the largest possible bearing race diameter. This maximises load performance. The proven Ronstan 2-stage bearing system features high compression grade acetal ball bearings and a secondary full-contact bearing. This gives minimum friction across the full working load range.

The floating sheave and bearing system is supported by a fibre-reinforced load frame. The design was computer modelled and optimised using stress analysis. The Dyneema® Link is produced from FSE Robline SK75 fibre, which is 10 times stronger and lighter than steel, and provides the final connection from the block to the load point.

Simple and secure attachment

The Dyneema® Link is easily fitted and is retained securely by a moulded retainer clip. The flexible link can be left with one end attached to the block when fitting - no more lost shackle pins.

The system is compatible with Dyneema®/Spectra® stropps, webbing and carbon connection points - much more so than steel loop tops or shackles.

Low profile and compact

The flexible Dyneema® Link provides controlled rotation and 0° or 90° orientation. It connects directly to the head of the block rather than to an intermediate head post. This reduces weight and gives the lowest possible profile while allowing full articulation. Becketts have been carefully designed to minimise height.

Fiddle block flexibility

Becket fiddle blocks use a Dyneema® Link attachment for the sheet termination and are suitable for both spliced and un-spliced lines. If you need additional purchase, a becket take-off can be simply added to any fiddle block version just by adding a Dyneema® Link.

High performance cleating

Both Ronstan BB and RT Orbit Blocks™ feature strong, lightweight fibre-reinforced cleat arms. They have a wide range of adjustment and calibration marks, perfect for selecting your preferred cleating angle settings. The race-proven, carbon-fibre reinforced Ronstan C-Cleat give secure rope holding with low entry and exit efforts, and are fitted with fairleads for fast action from any angle.

