



The Latest News from AeroSouth - April 2022



AeroSouth - The Inflation Busters

While it seems that prices over the past year have gone through the roof on most everything, AeroSouth has worked hard to keep our costs down and our pricing constant. You could call us the "inflation busters" of the sailing industry.

Once a catchy political phrase from the 1970s, "**Whip Inflation Now**" is possible today through continual innovation in production methods, tooling, better materials and by trying new ideas. We used the slower winter months to do just that and are pleased to be able to offer all our products at the same prices as a year ago.

We'll be announcing some interesting products soon based on our newly-acquired expertise in composites combined with Sapele wood, the strong core inside our world-leading **rudders** and **daggerboards**. While it might be a stretch to suggest AeroSouth products are a hedge against inflation, our customers will get their money's worth when purchasing them as the value of currencies decline through inflation.



Add Some Color!

Get a jump on Independence Day celebrations and outfit your dinghy with a new set of AeroSouth **Mainsheet Hanger Clips** in red, white or blue. Or show your patriotism by installing all three colors through our tricolor option.

All mainsheet hangers are made from high-quality PETG from our friends at **Atomic Filament** of Kendallville, Indiana. The same low price of \$25

gets you a set of three, regardless the color. Available in two sizes for Sunfish or Laser Class sailboats.

See the [AeroSouth Store](#) to order yours today. Makes a great gift for your sailing buddy or your entire fleet, or prizes for regatta winners!



Time for a new Tiller?

The tiller is one of the most-overlooked components of any sailboat, despite its importance. Ever tried sailing without one? Next time you are out with your sailing friends, have a look at the various tillers in use. Chances are good that many are heavily weathered, cracked, patched, and full of various holes from a variety of rudder attachments and extensions used during its history.

Isn't it time you upgrade that tired old tiller with a new [Sapele Tiller from AeroSouth](#)? It is not fancy, but it is strong, well protected from the elements, looks great and is highly affordable at only \$50. See the [AeroSouth Store](#) for order details.



Out of Stock? See Sunfish Direct!

As much as we'd like to keep all our products in stock to ship within 24 hours, increased demand sometimes leads to delays in getting orders filled.

This is not a supply chain issue, as we do everything in-house and have a small, reliable, US-based network of suppliers, most of which are here in North Carolina. Let's just call it growing pains, as we balance our production capacity against keeping our quality high and prices affordable.

Should you find that an item is currently out-of-stock in our online store, please check with our friends at [Sunfish Direct](#) as they may have it on hand. Sunfish Direct has a great reputation for order fulfillment and customer service, why we are honored to be associated with them.

The Science of Sailing #7 - The Flying Sunfish - Part 3 - The Foil Alphabet

In Part one of our series on foiling sailboats ([January 2022 issue](#)) we summarized the early history of "flying sailboats", held aloft by hydrofoil wings just under the water's surface. Those earliest of foils resembled in fact a step ladder - with



increasing speed the hull would rise, eventually lifting one foil after the other out of the water, resulting in lower lift and eventually the boat would assume a constant height above the surface.

In time, designers experimented with V-shaped foils that accomplished the same effect, with larger portions of the surface-piercing, V-shaped wing emerging to self-stabilize the boat's height.

Since these early foiling boats (powered and wind-driven) were constructed, a dizzying array of foil shapes have been used, with variable levels of success. They are categorized in two main groups - surface-piercing and submerged. According to the excellent paper "[The Foil Alphabet](#)" from [Fred Monsonnec](#), the various configurations of foils include E- (ladder foils), V-, T-, Y-, L-, U-, O-, C-, J-,

S- as well as variants and combinations of the above. Very common on foiling catamarans, for instance, are a pair of left-and-right J-foils for lifting with one or two combination rudder / T-foils aft for steering and stabilization.

The possibilities are mind-boggling and we have surely not seen the end to experimenting, so more letters in the Foil Alphabet are likely to evolve. In the next installment of this series we'll touch on perhaps the greatest challenge in foiling, **remaining stable** in the unstable sailing environment of shifting winds and waves.

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