



Bow Report

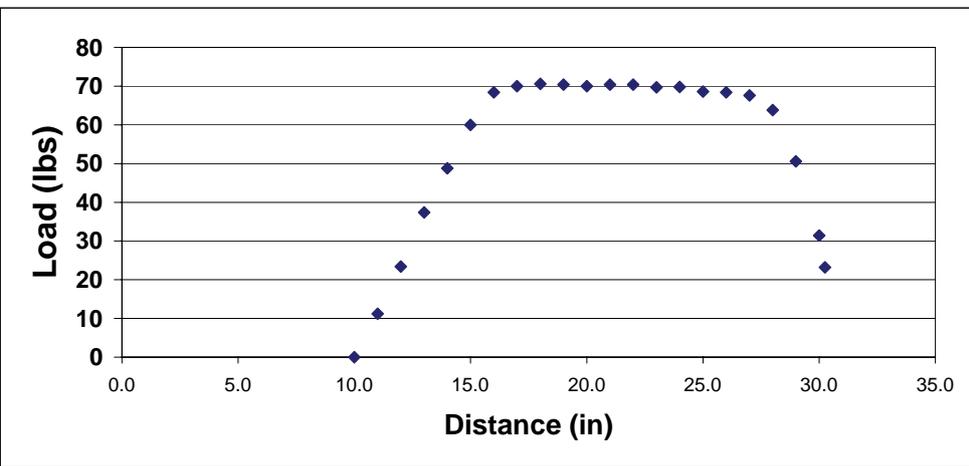
BowTech General

TestID:	General					
Tested By:	JS					
Date:	8/25/2008	Draw Length:	30.25	in	Speed:	306 ft/sec
Time:	9:02:31 PM	Brace Height:	8.25	in	Power Stroke:	1.69 ft
Units:	Unit = 1				Kinetic Energy:	72.789 ft*lbs
Min Load:	23.2	Max Load:	70.6	lbs	Stored Energy:	98.45 ft*lbs
Min Pos:	30.25	Max Pos:	18	in	Dynamic Eff.:	0.73935 %
Pre Test Comm:	"FAST" mods installed					
Post Test Comm:						

Distance	Load R1	Area Calc
10	0.00	
11	11.20	1.40
12	23.40	2.46
13	37.40	3.70
14	48.80	4.54
15	60.00	5.47
16	68.40	6.05
17	70.00	5.90
18	70.60	5.91
19	70.40	5.86
20	70.00	5.82
21	70.40	5.88
22	70.40	5.87
23	69.70	5.78
24	69.80	5.82
25	68.60	5.67
26	68.40	5.69
27	67.60	5.60
28	63.80	5.16
29	50.60	3.67
30	31.40	1.82
30.25	23.20	0.40

SUM of Areas
98.45

Eff = KE/SE
74%



BowTech has a relatively short history in the industry,

however, it is a story that is full of risk taking, astonishing growth and a multitude of successes. Since its start in 1999 BowTech has simply reached out and grabbed market share by the fistfuls. In the beginning this growth came from cutting edge technology and later on it came from continuing technology advances coupled with acquisitions. The acquisition of the Diamond Archery brand in 2004 afforded BowTech a broader customer base through mid-range price point products. In 2007 BowTech joined forces with Savage Sports Corporation, the largest rifle manufacturer in the United States, which afforded the company a deep base to support further advancements. More recently it has introduced an Octane line of accessories and announced plans to introduce a new bow line under the Ross Archery name.

BowTech's 2008 lineup has already seen a significant measure of success, as the flagship General, 82nd Airborne and 101st Airborne models have generated a large fan base. The General leads the way with its Center

Pivot Riser Technology, Vertical Force Technology, ShortStop string silencer and CenterTrac Binary Cam system.

The Basics:

Riser: BowTech's Center Pivot Riser Technology (CPT) produces one of the most recognizable bows on the market. A distinct pivoting strut Y's off of each end of the riser and meets a bracket structure half way along the length of the limb set. The strut and bottom bracket are pinned together while the top bracket is set atop the limbs and is secured to the bottom bracket with two bolts effectively harnessing the limbs. A softer bearing material insert serves to isolate the limbs from the aluminum bracket. More about how CPT affects the limb function in the next section.

Structurally, the General's riser is a cross between a reflex and deflex configuration. The terms reflex and deflex are used to define the basic riser geometry. To determine if a riser is reflexed or deflexed an imaginary line is drawn through both limb pocket pivot points. If a parallel line is drawn at the deepest part of the grip and it is in front of the pivot line then the riser is considered to be deflex. In turn, if

the throat of the grip is behind the pivot line the bow is considered to be reflex. Now, of course, the question is if the General's riser is clearly one or the other. You could make an argument on either side of the fence, however, it would appear to be both in some respects. All else being the same a deflex riser will have a higher (longer) brace height and for that reason is considered to be more stable and more forgiving of slight shooting form flaws. A reflex riser is considered to be less stable but faster. BowTech designed the General to take advantage of the positives from each design.

BowTech fully machines the General's riser from a 6061-T6-aluminum forging. There are many cutouts, chamfers, and flowing shallow "dished out" areas on the riser that work to both reduce the mass weight and increase the aesthetic quality. A trough and thumb groove are machined into the shelf area to bring the shooter's hand closer to the arrow. BowTech's goal for this design is to reduce vertical torque and increase accuracy. BowTech outfits the General with a two-piece laminated wood grip that produces a smooth and comfortable shooter-to-bow interface. Also featured on the riser are stainless steel

stabilizer inserts both front and back.

New for BowTech in 2008 is a cable guard/string silencer combination. A machined aluminum bracket attaches to the outside of the sight window, protrudes back toward the shooter and angles slightly back toward the centerline of the bow. The angled section of the bracket is home to a set of two rollers on which the cables ride. Attached to the rear of the bracket and reaching back to meet the string is the ShortStop string silencer. The ShortStop employs a reverse flange lined with a rubber-like material, which catches the bowstring when the bow is fired, absorbing any associated vibration.

Standard camo on all BowTech bows is Realtree's Hardwoods Green HD pattern, however, archers may opt for Realtree apg HD, Advantage MAX-4, Mossy Oak Obsession, Mossy Oak Treestand or Mossy Oak Brush. Protecting these patterns is InVelvet armor coating, which demonstrates incredible strength and resistance to chemicals such as DEET. Other benefits gained from InVelvet include its insulating and noise dampening qualities.

Customer Connection: The intricate machining detail on the General's riser followed by the crisp camo patterns and soft InVelvet coating are all great selling points. Folks will be impressed with the quality of the General and when they feel the warm finish they will respond with approval.

The Roller Guard and stainless steel stabilizer inserts are two of my favorite components because they eliminate common problems. The inserts allow for worry-free stabilizer attachments time after time. Stripped threads in the riser are no longer a consideration. Cable slides have a tendency to be affected by weather, debris, etc and will make unwanted sounds just when you don't want them to. Thanks to the machined roller guard that is another problem that you and your customer will not have to deal with on the General.

Show off the Center Pivot Technology and explain the reason it is there and what it can do for them.

BowTech's 2008 wood side panel grip in combination with the under-

the-shelf contours and thumb groove offers a super comfortable interface: Your customer needs to handle the General.

Limbs/limb pockets: As discussed in the last section the Center Pivot Technology (CPT) captures the limb approximately half way along its length and eliminates the need for a traditional style limb pocket. In fact, where a traditional pocket would normally be located there is only a small spacer/axle combination that separates and secures the limb ends and houses the limb bolt. As a side note the limb bolt on this bow is extremely easy to turn; most likely that is due to the support and stress managing qualities of the Center Pivot Technology. A center limb brace point greatly reduces limb tip movement and horizontal torque resulting in a significantly more controlled limb action. The result is less vibration and hand shock at the shot. Probably just as important as the CPT is the parallel position of the limbs at full draw. BowTech call this their Vertical Force Technology (VFT), which is the name given to define the equal and opposite distribution of force in the limbs upon release. Much of the energy leftover after propelling the arrow is cancelled out and the result is a bow that displays significantly reduced shock and vibration.

The General's 12 inch split limbs are machined from a billet of GC-67-VB, which is a continuous unidirectional "E" fiberglass material. GC-67 is known for its high strength and stiffness characteristics making it ideal for bow limbs. BowTech limb sets are matched based on deflection values for optimum performance. Limbs are offered in 50, 60 and 70 pound peak weight options all with 10 pounds of adjustment down. As with the riser the General's limbs are finished in Realtree's Hardwoods Green



The unique design of the BowTech General lets the already short limbs act as if they were composed of two shorter sections, reducing inertia and helping to eliminate vibration.

HD pattern or one of the following camo patterns with a hydrographic film dipping process and then coated with InVelvet: Realtree apg HD, Advantage MAX-4, Mossy Oak Obsession, Mossy Oak Treestand or Mossy Oak Brush.

Customer Connection: This is where you need to allow your customer to shoot the General. Without hesitation I can say that this is the most shock and vibration free bow that I have ever shot. CPT and VFT are

technologies that not only need to be talked about but also experienced.

Point out that the customer has a wide selection of camo patterns to choose from. Some folks want everything to match.

Eccentrics: BowTech outfits their General with the all-new CenterTrac Binary Cam system. These eccentrics are advertised to produce IBO speeds of 300-308 fps with the interchangeable smooth module option or if you are looking to pack a little more punch the speed mods are advertised to range between 307 and 315 fps IBO. With this system the cable tension is balanced from side to side while the string is placed on a center track. A natural result is the reduction or elimination of cam lean, which increases efficiency and produces more stable, accurate and consistent performance. Modules may be easily interchanged without the use of a bow press and are available in .5 inch draw length increments from 26 to 30 inches. An adjustable draw stop allows the shooter to adjust their letoff between 65 and 80 percent and fine-tune their draw length between the lengths offered by the modules.

BowTech's Binary eccentric systems break away from the y-harness (buss cable) that is found on single, hybrid and dual cam bows and instead anchors the cams to each other rather than to the opposite limb tips. In this way the cams function as a single component and when fired, automatically compensate for (equalize) any imbalances in the system such as unequal limb deflections or stretched strings. Both cams ride on stainless steel axles and needle bearings for increased efficiency.

Customer Connection: Most of us just want to pick up our bow and go shoot without having to worry about any timing/tuning issues. BowTech's binary system is advertised to allow just that. While the system will not completely eliminate the need for a touch up it will certainly permit your customer to stay on the practice range or in the field longer.

It wasn't that long ago that the 300 fps IBO benchmark was reached only by the fastest of the fast. The General's smooth and speed mods both eclipse

that mark, however, your customer has the choice to go for easier shooting or a harder impact.

Silencing/Shock reducing features: We have touched on several BowTech General features that impact this category including the ShortStop string silencer, Center Pivot Technology and Vertical Force technology. Together these probably make for most of the bow's success in this area. Still wanting to take it a step further BowTech also outfits their flagship with a set of cable silencers.

Customer Connection: The lack of noise reported at the shot is remarkable – a vital selling point!

Testing

Tests were conducted using the following equipment:

Spot-Hogg Hooter Shooter portable shooting machine

Easton Professional Chronograph with an infrared lighting system

Oehler M35 Chronograph

Easton Digital Bow Scale

Last Chance Archery Power Press Modified Apple Bow Drawing Machine

Chatillon DFIS 200 Digital Force Gauge

Mitutoyo Dial Calipers – 8 inch

Calibrated steel rule – 36 inch

NAP QuikTune 3000 Arrow Rest

Tru Ball Chappy Boss

Quality Test: As a dealer you do not want a sale busted by something as insignificant as machining marks, finish inclusions or untested threaded holes. When you are selling a high-end

bow like the General you absolutely expect perfection – as you should. The test bow was without any issues in finish, machining or overall workmanship.

Set up: A 30 inch draw length and 70 pound draw weight has become the industry-accepted specs for IBO ratings. The draw length will be set according to the requirements of ASTM F 1544-04 (30 inches +/- .25 inches) and the draw weight will be set to 70 pounds +/- 1 lb (the +/- 1 lb requirement is also an ASTM F 1544 - 04 requirement). Speeds will be measured using a correctly spined 350-grain arrow. This weight comes from the IBO rule, which states that, "Arrows must weigh at least 5 grains per pound of the bow's maximum shooting weight..." As stated earlier ArrowTrade bows will be tested at 70 pounds so: using the I.B.O. rule we would multiply 5 grains x 70 pounds = 350 grains. To summarize our Arrow Trade Standard:

Bow weight: 70 pounds +/- 1 pound

Draw Length will be set to 30 inches (+/- .25 inch) ATA (defined by ASTM F 1544-04)

Arrows will be selected according to the formula set out in the I.B.O. rules for minimum grains per pound (350 grains)

All arrow velocity ratings must be measured using a shooting machine with mechanical release (We will use the definition of a shooting machine found in ASTM F 1544-04)

A minimum of five shots must be



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chronographed using an arrow as defined above. The five shots will then be averaged to obtain the final reading. All velocity values for a given arrow must fall within a range of 2 feet per second (Taken from ASTM F 1544-04).

An appropriate chronograph with a minimum of two gates set no more than 48 inches apart will be used. The initial gate will be set at 36 inches from the front of the bow's handle.

A single brass nock and QuikTune 300 Arrow Rest were attached to the bow, nothing more. With the exception of these two items every bow is tested as it would be shipped to the dealer or customer. In other words, if it has string silencers or other components pre-installed it is tested with them installed. While the 'official' velocity rating for our calculations will be taken with an arrow as defined above, we will also use two other test arrows as reference points. This will be done to bring a bracketed picture of the bow's speed performance to the reader. Test arrows include a light-weight 350-grain arrow, a mid-weight 420-grain arrow and a relatively heavy 540-grain arrow. Before recording speeds with these arrows the bow was first paper tuned with each one. Most every bowhunter/archer will be able to extrapolate their approximate arrow speed in relation to similar set-up parameters and results presented from the three test arrows.

Speed/Velocity Test: Speed was measured with the two chronographs listed above, with Easton's model as the primary and the Oehler as a back-

About The Author

Jon E. Silks has a degree in Quality Engineering and works in the area of nondestructive testing technology. His entire career has centered around the testing and evaluation of products. He's been bowhunting since age 12. Silks started writing for magazines and websites seven years ago and since then has done more than 400 product reviews. Manufacturers who appreciate his thoroughness and frankness have often asked him to review products that are still in the development stage. Silk's work has appeared on the on Bowhunting.net and Bowsite.com and has been published in Petersen's Bowhunting, Bowhunter, Arrow Adventure, and White-tail Fanatic, along with ArrowTrade for the industry audience. Jon and Jennifer Silks have six children and live in Pennsylvania. Silks can be reached at jon@silks-outdoors.com.



up/verification unit. Following are the resulting speed ratings for each in feet per second rounded to the nearest tenth of a whole number:

540-grain arrow

247.5
247.9
246.8
247.6
247.2
Average: 247 fps

420-grain arrow

278.8
278.8
279.2
279.0

279.0

Average: 279 fps

350-grain arrow

305.5
305.4
305.8
305.9
305.5
Average: 306 fps

NOTE: The general was tested with the "SPEED" modules installed.

Potential customers will generally make their bow purchase choice based on several factors including the cost, speed, shot noise, shock/vibration level, grip and the draw cycle.

In our testing for ArrowTrade Magazine we try to give you a feel for how a bow performs in the "subjective" areas mentioned above. You can then focus on the bow's notable subjective points when interacting with your customer. The term "subjective" can basically be translated into "opinion". I will be giving my opinion of this bow's performance in the following subjective categories:

- Grip comfort and function
- Draw cycle "feel"
- Shot noise
- Shock and vibration levels

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The General's two-piece wood grip is both comfortable and functional. While some bow manufacturers pay a great deal of attention to the main body of the grip and seem to miss the detail under the shelf BowTech rounds out and blends the corners. Attention to detail in this area is key to an overall perception of comfort. There is not much depth to the thumb groove under the shelf, however it does provide additional comfort. In my experience most archers, regardless of hand size, generally prefer a moderately narrow grip. The General's grip is just that – fairly thin/narrow. One of the only drawbacks to the General is the relatively heavy mass weight of 4.7 pounds. While the many benefits and good balance far outweigh the mass weight I would like to see the same characteristics in a slightly lighter package.

An archer's perception of a bow's draw cycle is commonly central to their overall enjoyment of the shooting experience. The attached draw cycle for BowTech's General shows a somewhat aggressive climb to peak before rolling over into an extended stay at or near peak. At the back end of the plateau there is another easy transition before dropping to holding weight. During testing I was pleased with the draw cycle. An adjustable

draw stop allows the shooter to fine-tune the letoff and also the "feel" of the draw cycles termination.

When it comes to the next two categories, shot noise and shock/vibration levels, the General flat-out shines. I can say without hesitation that this is the most shock free bow that I have ever shot. When explaining this to people it is sometimes a challenge to express exactly what the BowTech General shooting experience is like, however, I think the best way to describe it is that the bow seems to disappear for a second when shot. It is more than the absence of shock and vibration – it is more like the bow is suspended for an instant giving the feel of almost nothing in your hand. And as you would expect the shot noise follows suit. The General is significantly quieter than the majority of bows on the market.

Test Bow Technical Info:

(350-grain arrow/ 70 pound peak draw weight/30 inch draw length)

Measured Speed: 306 FPS

Kinetic Energy: 72.79 foot-pounds

Stored Energy: 98.45 foot-pounds

Efficiency Rating: 74 percent

SE/PF Ratio: 1.41



BowTech The General

Manufacturer: BowTech

Bow Model: The General

Draw Weights: 50, 60, and 70 pound peak

Draw Lengths: 26 to 30 in .5 inch increments

Axle-to-Axle Length: 31.188 inches

Brace Height: 8.25 inches

Mass Weight: 4.7 pounds

Let-Off Option: 65 to 80 percent adjustable

Eccentrics: CenterTrac Binary Cam

Strings and Cables: BCY 452X

Tested Speed: 306 fps

Available Finish: Realtree's Hardwoods Green HD is standard with other options

Grip: Two-piece laminated wood

Riser: CNC machined aluminum forging

Limb Pockets: N/A – See Center Pivot Discussion above

Limbs: Split 12 inch, GC-67 E Glass

Cable Guard: Machined Roller Guard

Warranty: Lifetime to original owner

MSRP: \$799.00

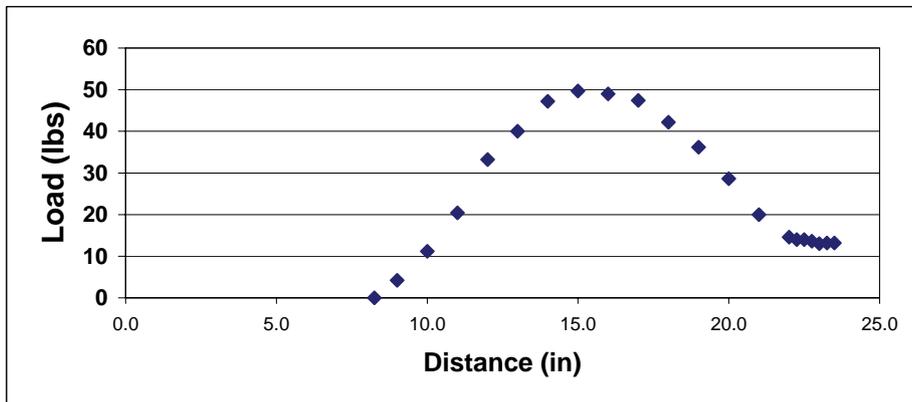


Bow Report

Diamond Edge

TestID:	Diamond Edge					
Tested By:	JS					
Date:	8/22/2008	Draw Length:	23	in	Speed:	ft/sec
Time:	8:47:09 PM	Brace Height:	6.5	in	Power Stroke:	ft
Units:	Unit = l				Kinetic Energy:	ft*lbs
Min Load:	13	Max Load:	49.7	lbs	Stored Energy:	ft*lbs
Min Pos:	23	Max Pos:	15	in	Dynamic Eff.:	
Pre Test Comm:						
Post Test Comm:	Complete					

Distance	Load R1
8.25	0.00
9	4.20
10	11.20
11	20.40
12	33.20
13	40.00
14	47.20
15	49.70
16	49.00
17	47.40
18	42.20
19	36.20
20	28.60
21	20.00
22	14.60
22.25	14.00
22.5	14.00
22.75	13.60
23	13.00
23.25	13.20
23.5	13.20



Diamond is now a well-known bow brand throughout the United States, manufactured by the parent company of BowTech. The Marquis model is one of the premier 2008 adult rigs on the market. Diamond also understands the importance of offering youth and short-draw archers a quality bow to get started with in archery. The Diamond Edge is a sleek, lightweight rig that includes features like a strong cast riser, a crisp camo finish with InVelvet armor coating, Gordon Glass split limbs and the hard-hitting DK dual cam eccentric system.

Riser: Diamond's Edge has a sleek riser with an appearance much like an adult bow – just smaller. The contours, cutouts and overall form mimic a larger rig. The 17 weight-reducing cutouts, narrow riser width and relatively short length keep the mass weight to a small stature friendly 3.3 pounds. Diamond uses high quality aluminum and an injection casting

process to fashion the Edge riser's form. From end to end the riser measures approximately 21 inches and is reflexed for optimum performance. The reflex geometry allows a longer power stroke and increases resultant speed.

Attached to the riser is a fixed position straight carbon cable guard that is outfitted with a Teflon cable slide. Two rubber side panels act as the interface between the shooters hand and the bow handle. The grip as you might expect is significantly narrow to accommodate smaller hands. Another feature that adds comfort to the grip is Diamond's InVelvet coating, which demonstrates incredible strength and resistance to chemicals such as DEET. Other benefits gained from InVelvet include its insulating and noise dampening qualities.

Diamond uses a hydrographic transfer process (film dipping) to apply the Edge's Realtree Hardwoods camo pattern. Other riser features include a front-facing stabilizer-mounting hole, an embedded Diamond logo, and double position rest mounting holes.

So, what does all this mean to Mom, Dad and/or the shooter?

The cast riser manufacturing

process offers plenty of strength while at the same time reducing overall cost – good news for the short-draw archer.

The InVelvet coating and rubber side panels create a super comfortable and narrow grip.

The sleek form and Realtree camo pattern give the Edge a great look.

Limbs/Limb Pockets: The Edge has solid limbs (not split) that measure 12 inches in length. The limbs are not parallel, however, they are considerably angled in that direction. This design takes advantage of some of the characteristics offered by vertical limbs. Diamond machines the limbs from a solid billet of Gordon E-Glass material. Gordon's limb materials are highly regarded in the industry and have proven themselves to be durable and sturdy through many years of consistent performance on countless bows. Limb sets are matched based on deflection values and are available in draw weight options of 29, 40 and 50 peak pounds. Limbs are finished in the same manner as the riser with Realtree's Hardwoods camo and the InVelvet coating.

Edge limb pockets are fixed position meaning they remain stationary



Diamond Edge

while the limbs move during draw weight adjustment. The main pocket component is a closed-end style pocket that is cast of aluminum in the same manner as the riser. Pockets are finished in the same Realtree camo pattern as the riser and limbs.

So, what does all this mean to Mom, Dad and/or the shooter?

Gordon Composite limb materials have been proven on bow after bow. The Gordon name should offer confidence to the purchaser.

Eccentrics: Giving the 30.25 inch axle-to-axle Edge a respectable IBO speed advertised at 298 fps (at 28 inches) is the DK dual cam eccentric system. In a dual cam system the top

and bottom cams are a mirror image of the other and the string is evenly distributed above and below the nocking point. Any mechanical seating or eventual wear of the string will have less of an effect on a dual cam system than what it would on a single cam bow where a large portion of the string is offset to one side of the nocking point. Both cams ride on sealed ball bearings and stainless steel axles. A single rotating module on each cam provides a generous draw length range from 18 to 28 inches, which is a key feature for young archers that are still growing. No bow press is required to adjust the rotating module. The 75 percent letoff generated by the dual cam system offers comfort while holding the bow at full draw for a relatively long time. Another benefit found on the module is a built-in draw stop. An "infinite module is also offered that maintains a constant draw weight over a relatively long distance, which is ideal for clubs or groups, as draw length does not factor in.

The Diamond Edge is equipped with a 52 inch 452X material string containing 22 strands and two cables each also made with 452X material and both measuring 33 11/16 inches long and containing 22 strands.

So, what does all this mean to Mom, Dad and/or the shooter?

A draw length span from 18 to 28 inches offered on a single rotating module goes a long way to keeping a growing young archer properly fitted to the bow. This has the added benefit of allowing the shooter to become familiar with a single rig, something that is important for those who are just getting started.

The liberal draw length range coupled with the rotating module is a benefit to you, the dealer, as the rig will fit most young archers that walk through your doors.

More benefits from the draw length range; this one is for mom and dad, as they will save money in the long run.

Testing

The Edge was set to 23 inches draw length and equipped with a sin-

gle brass nock and N.A.P. QuikTune 3000 arrow rest – nothing else was added to the bow. With the exception of these two items, every bow is tested unchanged - as it would be shipped to the dealer or customer.

Speed was measured with two chronographs. Three different draw weights, 40, 45 and 50 pounds were tested with two arrows of different weights, 260 and 328 grains (approximately). This should give a broad picture of what can be expected from this bow in terms of speed generated by various set-ups. Following are the resulting speed ratings for each in feet per second:

260-grain arrow: 40 pound draw
205.1
204.7
204.1
204.6
204.6
Average: 205 fps (rounded)

260-grain arrow: 45 pound draw
212.9

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212.5
214
212.9
213
Average: 213 fps (rounded)

260-grain arrow: 50 pound draw
225.1
225.1
225.6
224.3
225.1
Average: 225 fps (rounded)

328-grain arrow: 40 pound draw
185.3
186.9
185.6
186.5
185.7
Average: 186 fps (rounded)

328-grain arrow: 45 pound draw
195.4
195.4
195.4
195.4
195.4
Average: 195 fps (rounded)

328-grain arrow: 50 pound draw
206.8
206.8

207.1
206.5
206.6
Average: 207 fps (rounded)

The Edge has a pleasant draw cycle as can be seen in the attached force draw curve. While testing this bow, my 12-year-old son, Michael, shot the Edge frequently and made the statement that it was easy on his shoulder. This is an important quality for a youth bow as kids who enjoy shooting their bow repeatedly will spend more time on the practice range and in-turn will experience more success. A bow that is too hard to draw or has a rough draw cycle will most likely be left hanging in their closet rather than being shot out on the range.

Limbs on the Edge are moderately angled back and the result is a relatively low shock and vibration shooting experience. As with the draw cycle, a bow's level of hand shock and vibration goes a long way in keeping kids interested – either negatively or posi-

Diamond Edge

Manufacturer: Diamond Archery
Model: Edge
Draw Weights: 29, 40 and 50 pound peak
Draw Lengths: 18 to 28 inch by rotating module
Axle-to-Axle Length: 30.25 inches
Brace Height: 6.75 inch
Mass Weight: 3.3 pounds
Let-Off Option: 75 percent
Eccentrics: Dual DK Cam
Advertised IBO speed: 298 fps at 28 inches
Finish: Realtree Hardwoods
Grip: Two-piece rubber side panels
Riser: Cast Aluminum
Limbs: 12 inch solid limbs
Cable Guard: Carbon cable rod, straight
Warranty: Limited Lifetime
MSRP: \$329.00

tively. Shock and vibration were reduced to almost zero when a quality stabilizer was attached. Noise at the shot was also minimal as would be expected from a bow with reduced shock.

Comfort is also vital in the grip area and for short draw archers that typically means a narrow throat. Diamond's Edge has a very narrow throat that is sure to please young/small archers. The two rubber side panels that make up much of the Edge grip are extremely comfortable and will provide some warmth on cold days afield.

Short draw archers enjoy a good-looking bow just like the rest of us and the Edge delivers with a crisp Realtree Hardwoods camo pattern. The InVelvet coating will also be well received, as it provides a measure of warmth to the metal.

Two more points concerning the Diamond Edge; first, the Edge comes with a standard accessory package called the Boondocks package. It includes a three-pin fiber optic sight, prong rest, black two-piece twist release and braided wrist sling. A Hostage arrow rest is also optional. Secondly, Diamond offers an affordable upgrade program on the Edge limbs. Simply take the bow to your local dealer and ask them for the upgrade. It will cost you only \$44.95, which is a bargain to keep your youngster on the range without having to go out and buy a whole new bow.

Gear Corner: Last Chance Archery Power Bow Press

Not long ago I was introduced to one of the most useful and revolutionary shop tools I have seen in all my years – The Last Chance Archery Power Press. Within 20 minutes of receiving the motorized press I had it together and pressed three of the toughest to press bows on the market. Since that time I have pressed over 20 bows and none have taken me more than 30 seconds to remove the string tension. Another benefit I realized after some time was the ability to use it as a vise. Simply apply enough pressure to hold the bow snugly, loosen a small lever and rotate the bow into any position you want.

Last Chance Archer's Power Press has saved me a ton of time – I cannot imagine the benefits that a full-blown pro shop would be afforded. My son summed it up nicely tonight when he stated, "Anybody could use this thing!"

