




Founded in 1979 by the Bich family, of BIC Pen fame, BIC Sport grew from the family's passion for watersports and expertise in manufacturing. With the family's dedication to human powered watersports came a desire to implement sustainable manufacturing processes in order to preserve the environment in which these products are used. These efforts include minimizing energy use wherever possible, zero gas emissions or pollutants from our factory and recycling of manufacturing by-products wherever possible. We have received numerous awards over the years for our efforts to implement a system-wide sustainable manufacturing process.

While we are proud of these accomplishments in process, we also recognize that similar investigations need to be made on the materials with which some boards are made in order to further reduce our impact on the environment. The result is a new range of products: EARTH – Deep into Nature. Featuring bio-sourced, renewable and/or recyclable materials, EARTH – Deep into Nature is our commitment to stay true to our ethos and continually strive to do better.

Production of EARTH – Deep into Nature products feature the following materials, replacing materials traditionally used while retaining or enhancing technical qualities:

- Flax Fiber Sheets – rail reinforcement/strength (replaces Fiberglass sheets)
- Paulownia Wood – the primary material used in the boards sandwich construction (replaces PVC foam)
- Cork – non-slip deck pad material (replaces EVA foam)

But let's be clear: The materials and processes used to build EARTH boards are not fully sustainable. We still use polystyrene as the foam core material, which is the industry standard and may well be fully recyclable, but it is not perfect. We also continue to use epoxy resins because our efforts to test and source bio-resins has yet to achieve the quality and performance characteristics that would allow us to use them. Our team continually monitors the progress made with these and other bio-sourced materials so that we can incorporate them into our manufacturing process as soon as feasible. The search for a more sustainably sourced and produced range of watersports products is a journey, not a destination. We are fully committed to the path and hope you'll join us.



The current EARTH SUP range features the following materials

CORK

Cork is widely used in the shoe industry because of its natural comfort and shock absorbing properties. Our Deck Pads feature this renewable resource for the same reasons.

FLAX FIBER

Flax fiber is a naturally sourced material with similar flex and tensile strength to fiberglass, but is more durable. We use it on the rails of all EARTH boards.



PAULOWNIA WOOD

Fast-growing, lightweight, warp resistant and strong. The entire deck and hull feature this beautiful and renewable wood.

VARNISH-FREE

No varnish or paint is used for the graphics or finishing as these products tend to be toxic and are hazardous to work with.



MINIMAL FIBERGLASS

Fiberglass is only used for the final layer when finishing the board, keeping the quantity of this man-made mineral fiber to a minimum.

SOURCED FROM NATURE

We have carefully selected materials which are bio-sourced and also have the necessary technical properties to ensure solid construction and performance. Flax fiber, Paulownia wood and Cork wood have been tested and proven in other industries and they now play a key role in the sourcing and production of EARTH SUP boards.

Looking towards the future, potential areas of ongoing development include the sourcing of materials for the foam core, the resins used in EARTH SUP boards, and the packaging. We currently use polystyrene foam for the core of EARTH SUP boards. While this foam is recyclable it is nonetheless a petroleum derivative.

Research of alternative materials continues and we plan to transition to a bio-sourced material as soon as feasible.

The same is true of bio-resins. For now we continue to use epoxy resin due to the limitations in performance of currently available bio-resins. We will move to a new resin as soon as an acceptable alternative is found. Finally, we plan to optimize the packaging of EARTH boards as soon as a feasible and practical solution has been found.

FLAX

An ancient technology stronger than fiberglass

In Western Europe flax is cultivated along a coastal band stretching across southern Normandy to Northern France. Modern growers have by and large kept to the ancient methods in producing the high quality flax that now serves as the base for developing tough, durable fibers for industrial applications. The excellence of their product stems from a unique combination of damp ocean climate, rich soil and a highly prized understanding of historic techniques handed down through the generations. Flax is leading the way in the quest for clean, high-performance materials. Growing flax requires neither irrigation nor defoliant chemicals and also is a carbon sink. Useful right down to its roots, flax produces no waste. Researchers have achieved considerable progress in adapting the long flax fibers to production of high-performance composites.

Advantages of Flax Fiber:

- Natural, bio-degradable material
- Low energy consumption in production
- Not affected by UV exposure
- 40% lighter than fiberglass fiber
- Excellent resistance to flexion
- Absorbs vibration





PAULOWNIA

Naturally durable, light weight and beautiful

Paulownia is a tropical tree that is ideal for those looking to source a renewable, natural material for production. Fast-growing, it re-crops quickly, has a dense root structure to help stabilize soil and reduce erosion and grows well in fire-damaged forest zones. Its large, dense leaves rapidly create a rich floor loam after leaf drop. Its light, straight structure and resistance to water or resin absorption makes it a favorite among airplane and boat builders. These characteristics make it an ecologically sound and material with ideal mechanical properties for the production of light weight, highly durable SUPs.

Advantages of Paulownia:

- *Fast-growing, even in poor soils*
- *Dense root structure to help prevent erosion*
- *Doesn't absorb water*
- *Light weight, strong and straight fibers*



CORK

Comfortable, natural, renewable

Cork comes from the Cork Oak Tree which grows in the Mediterranean basin. "Cork" is actually the bark of the tree, formed by build up of dead plant cells that protect the living tree trunk and branches. It takes 8 years for the bark to grow sufficiently for harvest. Its high rot-resistance and waterproof qualities make it a much-used material in modern eco-homes. A soft, supple feel under foot, non-slip properties and beautiful aesthetic help explain why we've chosen to use this material in the deck pads of all EARTH SUP boards.

Advantages of Cork:

- *Natural, renewable resource*
- *Water and rot resistant*
- *Non-slip surface*
- *Comfortable and Beautiful*



BISCAYNE 12'6 x 28''

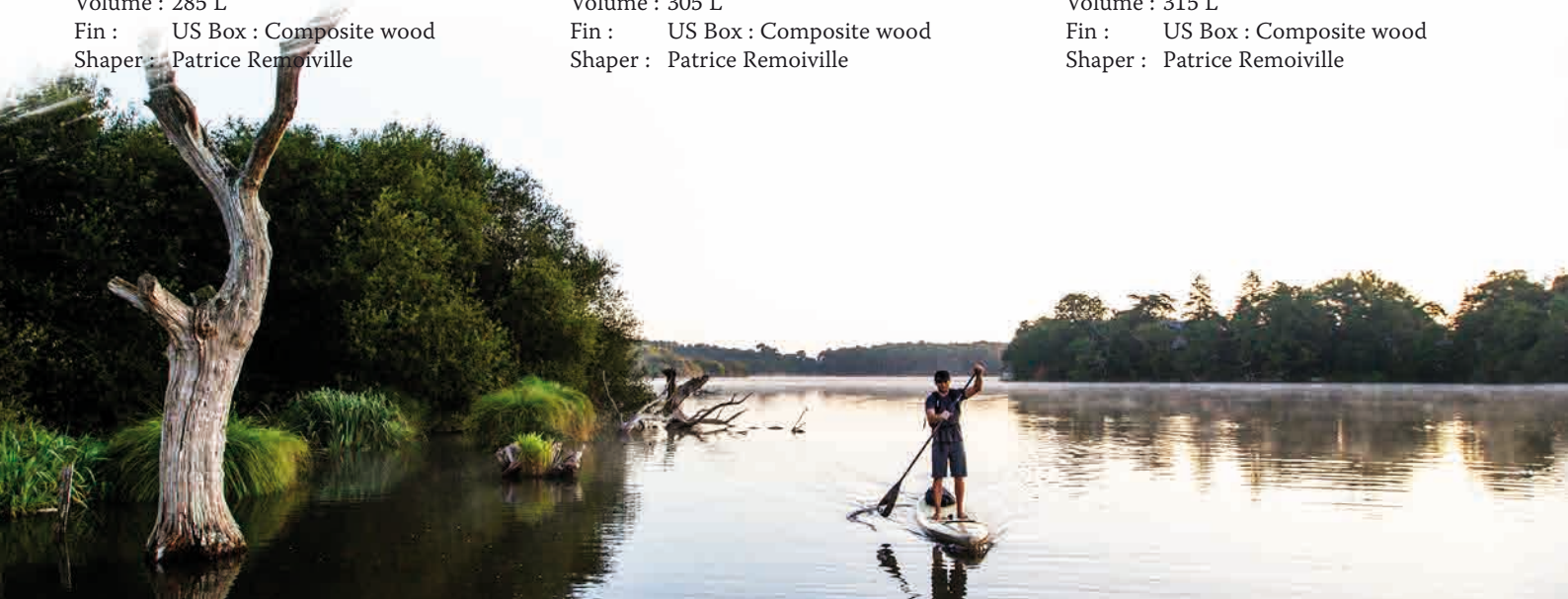
Length : 381 cm / 12'6"
 Width : 71 cm / 28"
 Weight : 12.75 kg / 28.00 lbs
 Volume : 285 L
 Fin : US Box : Composite wood
 Shaper : Patrice Remoiville

BISCAYNE 12'6 x 29''

Length : 381 cm / 12'6"
 Width : 73.5 cm / 29"
 Weight : 13.0 kg / 28.65 lbs
 Volume : 305 L
 Fin : US Box : Composite wood
 Shaper : Patrice Remoiville

NOVA SCOTIA 14' x 28''

Length : 426 cm / 14'0"
 Width : 71 cm / 28"
 Weight : 14.5 kg / 32.00 lbs
 Volume : 315 L
 Fin : US Box : Composite wood
 Shaper : Patrice Remoiville





TORRE 10' x 33''

Length : 305 cm / 10'0"
 Width : 84 cm / 33"
 Weight : 11 kg / 24.25 lbs
 Volume : 195 L
 Fin : US Box : Composite wood
 Shaper : Patrice Remoiville

THE PASS 10'6 x 30''

Length : 320 cm / 10'6"
 Width : 76 cm / 30"
 Weight : 11.5 kg / 25.30 lbs
 Volume : 155 L
 Fin : US Box : Composite wood
 Shaper : Patrice Remoiville

THE PASS 11'6 x 31''

Length : 350 cm / 11'6"
 Width : 78.5 cm / 31"
 Weight : 12.0 kg / 26.50 lbs
 Volume : 185 L
 Fin : US Box : Composite wood
 Shaper : Patrice Remoiville





Photo: P. Bouras / P. McGowan



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BIC Sport, S.A.S.U. au capital de 1.812.075 euros - B 781 826 957 - R.C.S. VANNES