

So What's the Problem with Rim Shoes!



The rim shoe you know today was designed during the Industrial Revolution. When metal was in high demand and skilled labour was in short supply. It used less material and was easier to mass produce. However this shoe only supports the outer



Rim Shoe after 6 weeks

edge of the horse's foot and does not give support to the pedal bone in the centre. It does not stop there, by only supporting the outer rim the toe grows long and the shoe is pulled forward. Compare this to the same



horse shod with Cytek. The long toe stretches the laminae (the horn) and after a few weeks the shoe which was over the heels when first put on, is no longer there. The result - corns and with a long toe the horse over extends and the heels hit the floor first causing Navicular syndrome. Not to mention the strain a long toe puts on the tendons and cruciate ligaments.

Have you ever wondered why you have a front and back shoe. When research has shown that there is only a 3% difference between the front and hind foot. Feral conditions reflect this with the front and hind hooves looking very similar. Yet in rim shoeing this could be vastly different.

The quarters of the foot (side walls) can be seen to crack,

flange or break away, because they are made to weight bear in rim shoeing – Why is this? - This part of the foot wants to break away so allowing the sole of the foot to rest on the pedal bone in the middle of the foot.

In rim shoeing the only way to shorten the toes is to trim as much sole away as possible and rasp the front wall.



This causes thin soles, and splits the front wall. If you try to lower the heels, you create a long toe, then you are forced to rasp away the front wall even more, so in some instances the heels are left too long, thus causing a contracted hamstring.



Like women wearing high heels. In addition the frog is not allowed to touch the floor so it rots away and becomes dysfunctional.

Like a pair of shoes that are too big for a child, in rim shoeing the toe always wears first. Why? - because the point of break over is too far forward. If the break over is located in line with the front of the pedal bone, the laminae, which hold the hoof wall onto the bone, become relaxed and don't tear.



So where does this leave us? A Cytek Shoe correctly fitted will allow the foot to land flat eliminating Navicular syndrome. A shoe which allows the toe to wear and doesn't get pulled forward. A shoe which supports the pedal bone, but also a trim, which allows the frog to work. No rasping the front wall. It takes

the weight away from the quarters of the hoof so they don't split and crack. As the sole is not pared away it grows thicker, protecting the sensitive structures inside the hoof. The shorter toe takes away the strain from the tendons.



With the point of break over further back, there is an improvement in performance. Cytek might be initially more expensive than rim shoeing, but as the hoof recovers and grows stronger the horse goes consistently longer thus saving the owner money.



Cytek New



Cytek 12 Weeks

Why can't I buy the shoes and shoe my horse with these? Unless the trim is correct and with correct placement of the shoe onto the hoof, then it doesn't work - so training is a must. Whether you are a farrier wanting to train or an owner wanting to learn.

Many people will say "but there is nothing wrong with my horse" Sadly 10-15 years down the line this doesn't always stay the same, some horse's might be lucky others well...

Since Cytek started in 1997 approx 130,000 horses are now using the system all over the world from America to England.



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