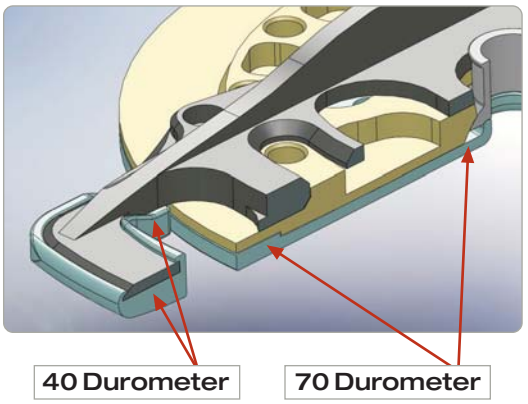
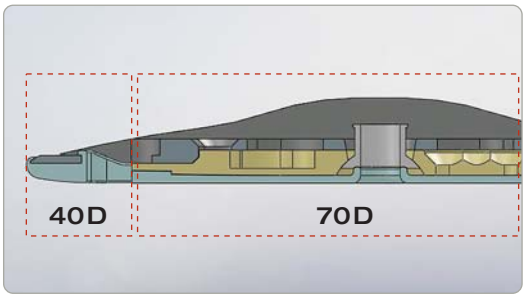
PRODUCT TECH NOTES

D3 Elastomers

The OS2 D3 Elastomer System was developed to provide a layer of separation between the binding baseplate and the snowboard topsheet, and the system was successfully tested by a prominent board manufacturer. The D3 provides a minimum of a full 2mm of silicon between the baseplate and topsheet. The OS2, when used with the D3, is no longer a "metal baseplate binding" as some call it. In fact, **the OS2 with the D3 offers significantly more elastomer between the board and every part of the binding (disc included) than any other binding that we are aware of existing in the current market.** (If other bindings exist that do provide more separation, please let us know; thanks.) We mention this feature not to jab at other products – but rather to emphasize this point because there seems to be significant confusion in the marketplace.





The D3, originally designed in 2006 for the FR2 soft binding and the OS2 plate is really surprising because it quiets the ride in a way that is difficult to describe, but significant on snow. The D3 disc also holds the spherical nut and mounting screws in place even when removed from the board – a very convenient feature – and it "grips" the mounting screws (a trick CATEK learned making skiboard bindings for LINE) so that the need to patch mounting screws is eliminated. The D3 pads grip the Power Plate for ease of use.

The D3 performs exceptionally well in a range of conditions, is very user friendly, and is a great selling product.

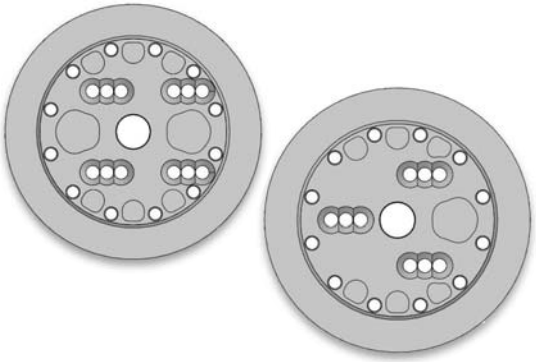
Binding Spacers

CATEK Spacers are designed for use on titanal topsheet snowboards in conjunction with both CATEK and other manufacturers' bindings. Catek Spacers specifically address the category of titanal snowboards not using a more sophisticated (and expensive) platform system. The Race Spacer initially was designed to protect titanal topsheets from competitor's bindings, but it was later realized that the product works great with CATEK bindings as well both on titanal and traditional construction boards. Note that the embedded rubber in the Race Spacer provides "screw grip" for any binding mounting hardware. Field data showed that without a rubber grip pad or other threadlocking agent, spacers yielded significant mounting screw loosening; we wanted to be sure to solve this issue for all the Home Depot do-it-yourselfers.

OS2 users have the option of using the D3 with or without a Race Spacer and a Racer Spacer with or without a D3. Use them both and there is even more protection – **CATEK recommends this for titanal snowboards**. Users of non-OS2 bindings can use a Race Spacer as well. Boards are getting expensive (metal or traditional) and CATEK recommends protecting them from point loads due to any binding (sophisticated platform systems aside).

Discs

For years the WCS and OS1 Discs shared both the 4x4 and 3-Hole mounting patterns. The design was such that the mounting screw head (45 degree countersink), when tightened, did not exhibit significant off axis loading. However, the migration to the OS2 included a very slight change to the disc countersink contours which in turn brought about increased mounting screw off axis loading. Beginning in 2006 this issue was addressed by segregating disc types as 4x4 and 3-Hole. This completely resolved the off axis loading issue.*



**The Catek OS2 Combi Disc (4x4 + 3-Hole), which is available on a very limited basis to customers who prefer it (while stock lasts), does exhibit the off axis loading issue.*