

NEWS FOR FARRIERS

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Will Tariffs Affect the Farrier Industry?

At this time, there is no firm information that additional tariffs (a tax or duty to be paid on a particular class of imports or exports) will be levied on products we import. However, depending on the decisions made by the new administration, our industry could see an impact, resulting in at least temporary price increases.

Existing tariffs, combined with fluctuating transportation costs, have created an inflationary impact on farrier products. Additional tariffs would certainly add to that problem. Overseas vendors are doing everything possible to mitigate the current impact of these costs. It is expected they will continue to work on reductions in production costs, helping to offset any tariffs that may be levied.

New RazorStar™ Belts EXCELLENT LIFE AND PERFORMANCE



The new RazorStar belts for the FootPro 10" Expander Wheel, 2"x36" and 2"x48" grinder attachments are now available through an FPD Dealer near you.

- Designed for medium to high pressure metal removal in the toughest applications
- Proprietary, 100% engineered shaped ceramic grain is a breakthrough technology from one of the world's foremost grinding innovators

Find a dealer near you carrying RazorStar eclipse Belts » farrierproducts.com/norton-razorstar-belts

JUST A REMINDER

Kerckhaert Prime Fit

This shoe offers a competitively priced option for pleasure, trail and ranch horses. The easy-to-fit front and hind shapes will minimize fitting time. Full 5/16" thick stock has a V-Crease; accommodating a range of American style nails, including Combo Slim, Slim and City. Available unclipped only, in sizes 00, 0 and 1. Size 000 will be available in March. **Sized the same as the Kerckhaert Steel Triumph.**



Find a dealer near you carrying the Prime Fit » farrierproducts.com/prime-fit

Stock up on Hoofcare Products for Spring

FootPro CS+ Hoof Treatment is a clay based hoof treatment with copper sulfate, iodine, venice turpentine and tea tree oil. The product is used to treat hoof separations or surface pockets in the sole and frog where bacteria may be present. Packed in a convenient 10 oz. container, the material is easily spread and leaves no stain on your fingers.



Allen's Blue Powder is a medicated thrush preventative, developed by farrier Todd Allen. The active ingredient is copper sulfate and the powder is sprinkled on the frog and sole area of the foot as a preventative measure. Also used as a treatment for thrush.

Plexus CS Gel has been developed by Austin Edens to help treat white line and other bacterial/fungal issues in the horse's foot. The gel formula contains copper sulfate and vinegar in a ratio that makes it an effective treatment and preventative product.



Keep Your Belts Clean For Increased Efficiency and Longer Life

We have all heard the sayings “time is money” and “wasted time is wasted money.” The use of grinders to modify shoes and buffers to dress hooves not only improves time efficiency; it also reduces wear and tear on the body by eliminating the need for additional forging, hot rasping or the use of a finish file. Using grinders and buffers becomes inefficient when one does not care for them properly, causing a premature end to their usefulness.

Improvements in abrasive component technology have greatly enhanced material removal rates and the life of the abrasive. However, without proper care, belts and sleeves can have their lives shortened, even with the new improvements. One of the primary reasons for shortened belt life is loading. Belt loading tends to occur most often when grinding or sanding non-ferrous metals such as

aluminum. It can also occur when working with softer materials such as leather and urethane pads or, in the case of buffer sleeves, hoof wall material. In any of the aforementioned cases, the material being ground away

becomes trapped in-between the abrasive particles to the point that there is no longer definition between the particles. Cutting performance is greatly reduced when this happens and it is often incorrectly assumed the belt has reached the end of its serviceable life.

Using grinders and buffers becomes inefficient when one does not care for them properly.

Luckily, belt loading is easily remedied in seconds with the use of a rubber belt cleaning stick. With regular cleaning you can expect to see increased belt life and reduced working time. The steps

below show the proper use of the rubber belt cleaning stick to save you time and money. ■



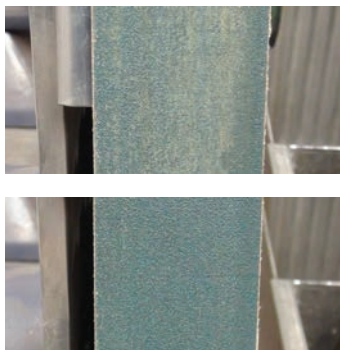
A zirconia belt with material loading present.



To clean belt, place rubber cleaning stick on belt at a 45° angle.



Turn on grinder. Maintain contact with belt and sweep side-to-side to clean.



Belt Comparison
(Top) Dirty, (Bottom) Clean



A hoof buffer sleeve loaded with hoof material.



To clean sleeve, hold buffer against rubber stick and run drill. Sweep buffer side-to-side until material is removed. Be sure to set drill direction to ensure rotation is throwing material down and not up.



A clean hoof buffer.