



**Roderick Pijls:  
On board  
with Teijin Aramid.**

**In extreme sports, victories can be decided on the smallest margins. What's more, the risks of these sports mean that competitors need equipment that ensures their safety while also maximizing performance.**

Professional kitesurfer Roderick Pijls started using kiteboards made with Teijin Aramid's para-aramid fiber Twaron® and UHM-WPE film Endumax® two months ago and is already seeing the benefits for both competition performance and safety.

**Custom-made kiteboards**

To perform to the best of his abilities and gain a competitive edge, Roderick Pijls uses kiteboards custom-made by

Dutch manufacturer Lieuwe. After meeting Roderick two months ago, Teijin Aramid began supplying its Twaron® and Endumax® materials to Lieuwe, along with advice on their composition and the right amounts to use for optimal results. "The most important qualities in a kiteboard are its stiffness and durability, to allow for safer hard landings and reduced vibration," says Roderick. "Twaron® and Endumax® offer both of these qualities."

**Twaron® Endumax®**

## Jumping higher with Twaron® and Endumax®

The enhanced stiffness of Twaron® and Endumax® produces improvements in both safety and competition performance. "A stiff board bends less in hard landings, making it much less likely to break," explains Roderick. "As well as reducing the risk of injury, this allows me to safely jump higher and edge for longer in contests, giving me a competitive advantage. Reduced bending also means less vibration, even in choppy water, which is softer on the knees. It's these small advantages that make all the difference in a competitive environment."

What's more, the high-performance characteristics of Teijin Aramid's materials make them ideal for extreme environments. "Boards made with Twaron® and Endumax® perform well in all conditions - from choppy to flat waters, at all wind strengths, and at all temperatures," adds Roderick.

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### A supportive collaboration with Teijin Aramid

As well as the quality of its materials, Roderick has also been impressed with Teijin Aramid's support and advice. "I've been doing my own research on Twaron® and Endumax®, but an in-person explanation is so much more informative than reading," he says. "Teijin Aramid's experts have provided me with in-depth explanations on how their fibers work, such as why the precise angle of placement will optimize performance, and have always been incredibly helpful with any questions I've had."



### Looking forward for future solutions

Roderick is looking forward to a continued partnership with Teijin Aramid, including the possibility of working with them on other products. "We're currently looking at the possibility of using Endumax® in kite lines," he says. "Teijin Aramid is already the biggest player for kites, so it would be great to see it become equally established for boards and to expand to other equipment. I'm hoping to continue improving my kite-surfing equipment with Teijin Aramid for a long time, as I'm impressed by their proactive attitude and how they always strive for the best!"



### For more information

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