

XIOM VEGA PRO BLADE (XVP)

XIOM Vega Pro (XVP) blade is the equivalent of Butterfly Mizutani Jun SZLC (MJ SZLC). Zylon & Zephyllium mean the same thing (thermoset liquid crystalline polyoxazole) and are just different trademarked names.

Personally, I prefer the feel of this blade more than that of MJ SZLC. There are differences:

1. XVP is easier to generate spin with close to the table. At the table or 1-2 steps away, the XVP is the best blade I've played with in terms of power, ball bite & control. Here, it is faster than Viscaria and much easier to control with.
2. Away from the table (more than 2 steps), the XVP is slower than Viscaria or MJ SZLC.
3. XVP is available at much lighter weights (80g ST). I have not heard of a MJ SZLC under 88g yet.
4. If you don't sand your XVP, you will get blisters. XIOM claims that this is because they use very old trees to get wood that gives better feel.
5. By natural glue XIOM means hide glue.
6. Rubber compatibility: MJ SZLC is compatible with 45 degrees and lower hardness. XVP works best with 42.5 degrees and higher hardness. If using Chinese rubbers, you shall have to boost.

Structure: 5 Wood Ply + 2 Composite (Zephyllium & X-Carbon)

Character: OFF ~ OFF+

Grips Available: FL, ST

Origin: Made in Korea

What is special?

Zephyllium & X-Carbon. Different from typical Zylon, as Zylon is 3k in thickness while Zephyllium is 1k. Different from typical Carbon, as many uses 6k and 3k in thickness while X-Carbon is 1k. Composition that we use is about 2~4 times more expensive than typical composition. We have used these compositions to lower the weight and also to increase the feeling of the blade. If the carbon or zylon are thick or heavy, it will interfere with the feeling of the blade. XIOM use only 1k (despite the price) in order to bring the best of the composite blade. Currently only blades that uses these compositions are XIOM Hayabusa, Butterfly Super Zhang Jike and XIOM Vega.

Jointless Wood

Usually, when many manufacturing companies produce blades, they use two veneer and joint them together to make one piece of veneer. Rosewood wood is very difficult to find one single piece wood for the blade. Therefore many companies uses two veneer to join them into one to make it one piece for the surface veneer. Also if you open up the blades and look at each veneer, you can see that most of them are jointed. But if you look at our blade, all our layer of veneer are jointless woods. What is so good about jointless woods? Think about wearing a shoe that is cut in half and glued back together. How would this feel? This applies same as the blades, if you use jointless wood, it will increase the performance and stability of the blade. Why doesn't other manufacturing companies use jointless wood? Because it is expensive and hard to get. Usually in order to make jointless blade, it will require 100~300year old wood to be used. But as you know the thicker and older the wood it is the more expensive it is. Because the wood is old, the wood grain on the surface might feel bit more rough than other blades. This is same as people, If we get older we get more wrinkles, same applies for the wood, the wood is older and the wrinkles are something we cannot get rid of.

Glue

Natural Glue is used to make this blade in order to maximize control and catching of the ball while impact. Most of the blades are produced by using epoxy glue, in order to increase production. Epoxy glue dries up much faster than any other glue, and it is well used for mass production. (Usually uses hot press to increase productivity). However, the epoxy glue forms a thin layer of glue while drying up between the veneer that blocks the smooth feeling of the blade and also increases hardness of blade. This is not good for the professional player which requires better control and catch. Natural Glue is highly not the favorable way for the most of manufacturing company due to fact that it needs long time to dry up. XIOM separate drying storage made for only Vega series which helps to dry naturally. When it is dried up naturally, the glue will eventually evaporate and absorbed into the wood, leaving absolutely no layer of glue between veneers.

THIL & Made in Korea

THIL is our quality control. Wood is breathing thing that changes easily according to the surrounding environment. Therefore Temperature, Humidity, Insect, and Light are very important to the wood management. Our factory in Korea is THIL controlled factory to make sure that at point of production the wood is at their best shape. Made in Korea. In order to make one blade, it must go through 20 different types of machines. About twice or three times more machines that is required to make a blade. We use 20 different machines in order to make sure the qualities of the blade are all same at all time.

T-FOIL

The blade comes with the T-foil attached, in order to reuse them for maintenance of rubber and blade.

Jang Woo Jin plays with XIOM Vega Pro blade.