

TEST REVIEW

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RRD ADDICTION 14



Addiction, dependence, affection – all that is possible with addiction. The Ricci-kite can actually become habit-forming for every kite boarder who doesn't get pampered with strong wind daily. There is hardly another kite to be found who kicks of so early and so powerful like this twelve cylinder from Italy.

The Story: If somebody wants to battle the crossbow in the matters of light-wind-performance, he really has to push hard. Of all kites the Ricci Addiction, in Germany also distributed by the Cabrinha head-office Pryde, now messes with the business of the prime father of all light-wind kites. It seems like Ricci must have been fed up with the wobbling around in his Tuscan home country and finally wanted to snatch the chance for a ride whenever it fitted his schedule and not only when the wind was in the mood for it.

Programmatic for the Ricci House is here the sense of well-being on the bar: If twelve cylinder then at least with power-assisted steering please!

Bar Feeling: With a kite having such extraordinary light-wind characteristics one may get seized by a horror at the thought of the possible bar pressure. And then you pick up the Ricci-bar and start thinking: This cannot be true! For a kite of that size the holding power is surprisingly low. Nevertheless the addiction always gives you a good feeling of location – you always know his position. Furthermore the effort for a trigger impulse is quite low, considering the fact that one has to handle 14 square meters up in the sky. Regarding its size one can be extremely satisfied with the transfer of steering orders, which are average. No matter if the wind blows stronger or lighter - the rider can always count on the Addiction's enjoyably low steering powers. Only if the conditions get too rough for the generally smooth fourteen pointer one needs to pull on the bar quite fiercely.

Range of Use – (De)Power: According to our riding experiences the Addiction sets up new standards for the light wind domain. There is hardly another kite which kicks off so early like this fourteen pointer: already at 11 knots it speeds off like a comet. Unhooked you feel like you would be holding on to a wakeboard lift. That's how you extend your time on board x-fold. Therefore the Addiction has its main range of use in the lower wind range. As soon as the wind picks up you should consider very precisely what to do next once you've unhooked yourself: it pulls off mercilessly, just like the cable at the wake –site.

Airtime: During normal jumps you need to concentrate a little harder on the rim as the kite tends to pull you off the rail. That's also the reason why the jumps' height is not very impressive; however the hang time has gliding character. Even just before landing there is still room for a little gimmick.

Kite loop: The kite loop causes medium side acceleration. Unhooked loops are already at a lower wind range extremely powerful. The kite doesn't wobble in the slightest, but rather draws bigger radiuses which cause the necessary lee off-set.

Re-launch: Even in the lowest wind range you just have to tickle the lines a little and the big glider moves on to the runway and soars up. In launching the Addiction is similar to a Bow.

Suitability: The Addiction can be highly recommended to all intermediate and old school rider as well as Freerider. But also wakestyle rider who need a lot of time for practice should consider buying this natural lift in case the wind is flagging.