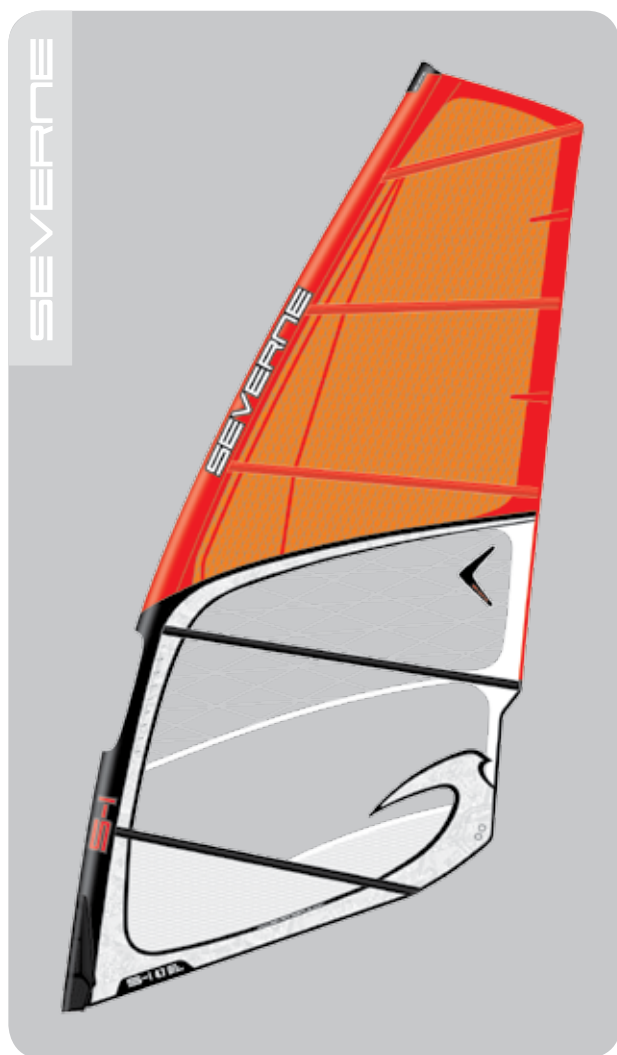


SEVERNE S-1 5.3 (2011),**ON THE BEACH:**

“It weighs nothing!” was the almost horror-stricken exclamation from one of the testers as he held the S-1 in his hands for the first time. As a matter of fact, the S-1 weighs together with the matching wave mast as much as the heaviest sails in the test without the mast. It is about 1 kg lighter than the rest. Although the sail is not as robust as some of the other (heavier) competitors it is well constructed. Severne promises that this feather lightweight sail is possible due to the use of the latest hi-tech materials and not through the lack of re-enforcements.

**ON THE WATER:**

After only a few minutes on the water we wonder at the good pace that the sail develops, despite the flat trim. Severne seems to have succeeded in developing a sail that has a lot of power despite its superlight handling abilities. Generating the on/off power delivery works by pulling or freezing the back hand. The feeling of the sail shows its strength predominantly in the lower and mid wind range. If the sail is exposed to

strong pressure, it becomes more difficult to control and it is recommended to downsize. The sail is like a dream for freestyle maneuvers because it feels like its non-existent. The steep up-ward cut of the foot makes “duck” moves child’s play.

SUMMARY:

Riders who expect the perfect top end control or who expect a huge wind range from their freestyle sail will probably find better sails in the test. For all the rest; the lightest sail in the test combined with neutral maneuver handling and unexpected planing ability; this is the one to go for. It belongs in the absolute favorites amongst our testers.