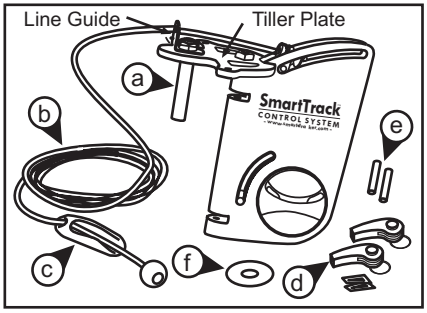
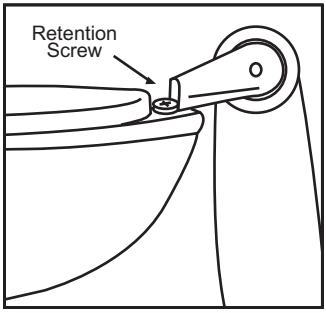
SmartTrack Control System
Top Mount, Short Pin #03817

This style of Blade Housing installs on kayaks with a flat area on the rear deck. Often a 1/2 in. (or larger) hole has been drilled and a nylon sleeve or bushing inserted. The Tiller Plate is held down with a truss head screw or other retaining device.

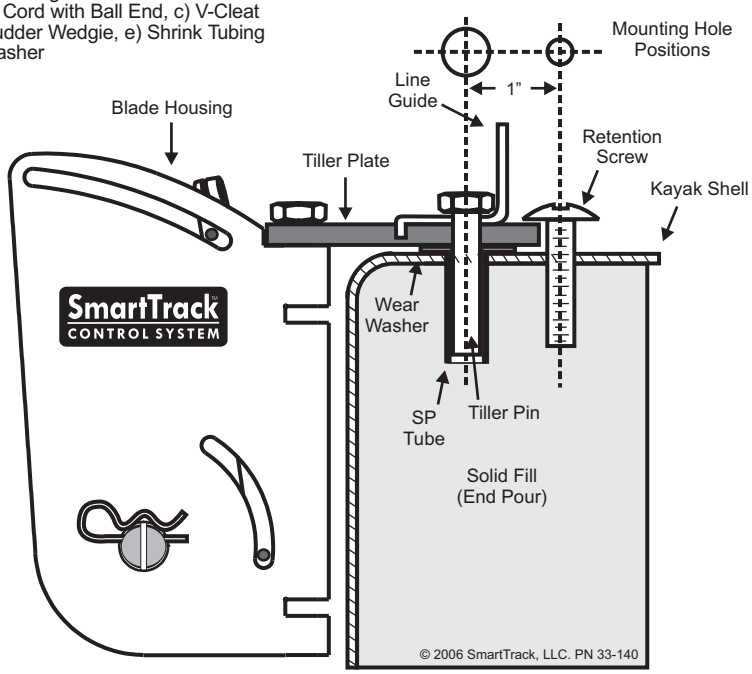
1. Disconnect old cables and remove.
2. Remove retention screw or other retention device to remove old rudder assembly. Note any wear washers under existing tiller bar.
3. Install Blade Housing Short Pin into hole on rear deck with Wear Washer to reduce friction on Tiller Plate. The Wear Washer may also help raise up the Line Guide to allow for the Rudder Cord to clear the rear deck.
4. Reinstall Retention Screw or other rudder retention device. You may need a thin wear washer under the head of the retention screw.



Parts in Short Pin Blade Housing kit:
a) Blade Housing with 1.75" x 3/8" Short Pin
b) Rudder Cord with Ball End, c) V-Cleat
d) Cool Rudder Wedgie, e) Shrink Tubing
f) Wear Washer



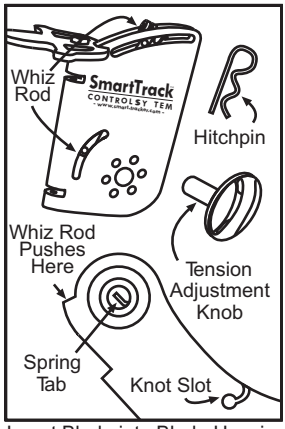
Typical Top Mount - Short Pin Kayak.



Attaching the Foil Blade Rudder

The SmartTrack Foil Blade has a Coil Spring on the right side where it attaches to the Blade Housing. The Tension Adjustment Knob engages this Spring and can be used to adjust the tension of the Foil Blade depending on anticipated paddling conditions.

1. Remove Hitchpin and Tension Adjustment Knob.
2. Insert Blade into Housing with straight edge forward. Make sure to catch the bottom of the Whiz Rod with the upper notch on the Blade.
3. Align the pivot hole in the Blade with the large center hole in the Blade Housing and reinsert the Tension Adjustment Knob. Line up the slot in the Tension Adjustment Knob with the Spring Tab in the Blade and push until the Knob engages the spring.
4. Wind the Tension Adjustment Knob clockwise until the desired Blade tension is achieved.



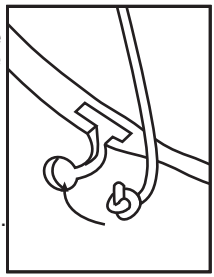
Insert Blade into Blade Housing. Note notch for Whiz Rod on Blade.

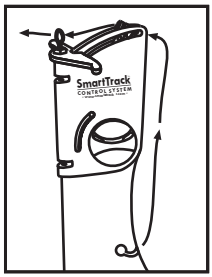
NOTE: If you can not tighten the Tension Adjustment Knob, it may be in the locked position. Pull it out slightly and try turning it again. Do not tighten the Tension Adjustment Knob more than 180 degrees, or 1/2 turn.

5. With the Tension Adjustment Knob tightened as desired, push it all the way into the Blade Housing, engaging the locking knobs. You may need to rotate the Knob slightly to engage locking knobs.
6. Insert Hitchpin back onto Tension Knob, making sure Clip lies flat.

Attaching Rudder Cord

The SmartTrack system only requires one cord to be routed and because of the unique design, the amount of force required to raise the rudder is significantly less than many other designs. Plan out how you might use existing deck fittings to route the cord to reduce labor and maintain minimum friction. Look inside the kayak at the length of the machine screws used to attach fittings along your planned route for the new Rudder Cord. Often times you only need to use a slightly longer machine screw through a deck fitting, slip a cable guide under the fitting and feed the "new" machine screw into place and tighten in place with the nyloc nut.


Insert knot in Knot Slot



Routing of the Rudder Cord. (Rear Mount Blade Housing shown.)

1. Tie a tight overhand knot in the end of the cord. Press it into the Blade Knot Slot, center it and pull cord to seat knot in hole. If knot sticks up it can create drag inside the Housing. If the knot still protrudes, melt knot edge with a lighter and flatten. For added security, a spot silicone sealant may be used on the knot.
2. Thread cord from Knot Slot in blade up through the guide in top of Whiz Rod and into Line Guide.
3. Mount cord guides on deck, if necessary, and thread cord. Mount V Cleat in appropriate location. Remember to take into consideration bulkhead location, and hand position when paddling, etc.
4. Lower blade, run cord through the Jam Cleat, and tie Ball End onto the Rudder Cord as close to the V Cleat as possible. Melt the cord end to prevent fraying.