



The Headjoint Specialist

2010-2011 New Headjoints

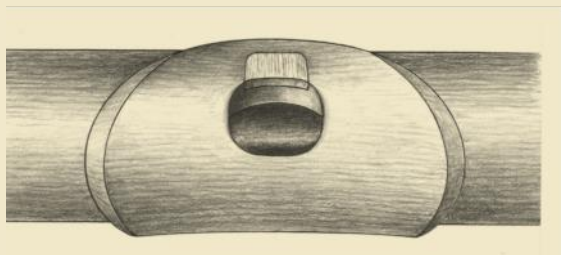
Drelinger Headjoint Company is constantly involved in the research and development of headjoints. Our ongoing work is never ending and when it reaches a significant step forward in improvement of an existing design or the creation of an entirely new concept we introduce it as part of our ever expanding variety of headjoints.

Drelinger's research during the early 1980s demonstrated that blow edge shape and material has a profound effect on modern headjoint performance. This was authoritatively recognized when Drelinger was awarded a US patent for this as an invention. Since its introduction literally thousands of Drelinger headjoints have been sold incorporating the Platinum Air Reed™ and Gold Air Reed™ technology. And most recently, you may see that other makers have tried to emulate this feature, however its origin and mastery of continued refinement remain Drelinger's.



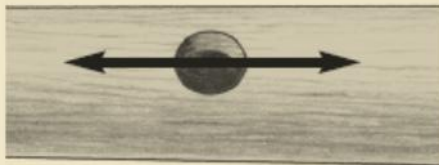
Sandy Drelinger (left) discusses blow-edge technology with Albert Cooper (right) at a flute show display circa mid 1980s.

The New All Wood Model ABC Headjoint with Grain Oriented-Air-Reed™



The ABC is an all African Blackwood thin walled headjoint with a Cocus wood, grain oriented air reed. The blackwood gives the potential of projecting a centered dark sound while the grain oriented Cocus Air Reed gives the possibility of producing a warm and resonant timbre.

What is a Grain Oriented Wood-Air-Reed?

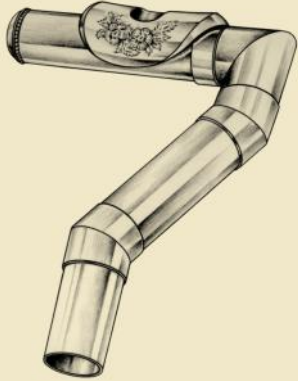


Traditionally wood flute and piccolo headjoints have a blow edge cut parallel with the direction of the wood grain as shown by the arrows.

Recently Drelinger discovered that by orienting the blow edge grain parallel to the oncoming air stream, improvements in overall sound were achieved. With other wind instruments using a reed, such as a clarinet or oboe, it has always been the practice to cut the reed with the grain going in the same direction as the oncoming air. It proved advantageous to do the same with the wood grain of the flute blow edge. And by making this blowing edge of Cocus wood, noted for its warm and resonant properties, we have yet another benefit.



The New UpRite II™

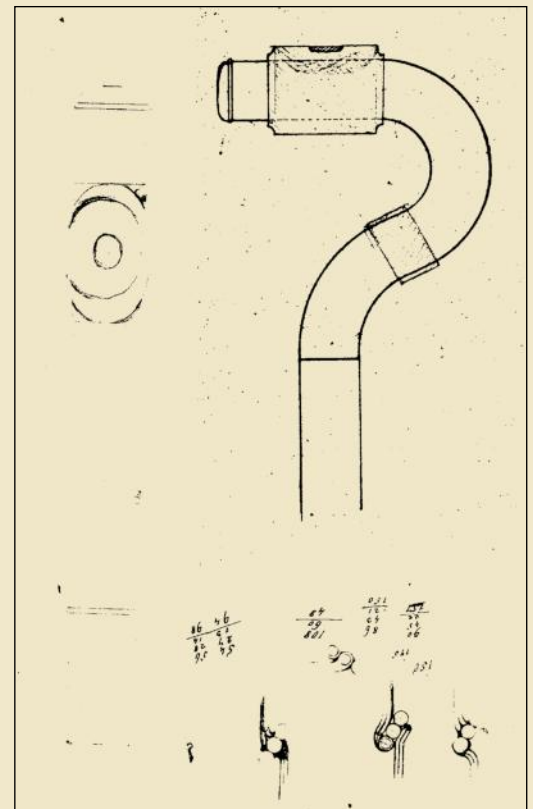
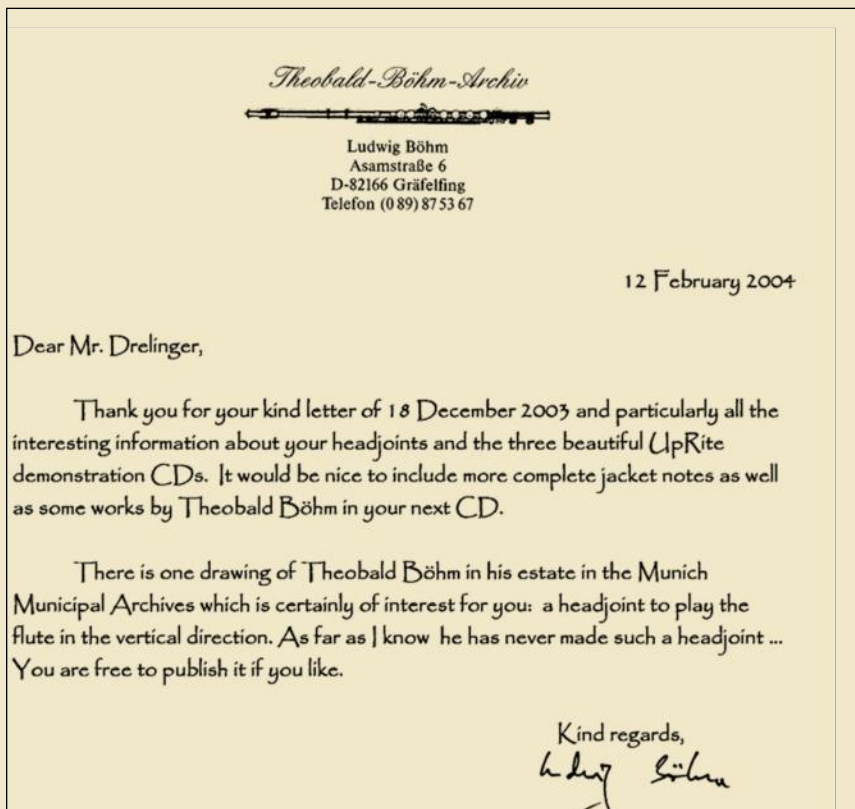


Ever since its introduction the UpRite has enjoyed great popularity. Despite this immediate acceptance we have continued to refine it. The acoustic design has never undergone any type of tweaking. However, the UpRite's ergonomic attachments have continuously been refined in terms of comfort, variety of adjustments, as well as reducing overall weight.

About a year ago we completed a number of significant ergonomic improvements to the UpRite's attachments and decided they should all become part of current UpRite production. The new model incorporating these refinements is the UpRite II. Specifics will be covered in a revised UpRite brochure.

Interesting facts about the UpRite's origin and its ongoing acceptance.

This drawing shows that Böhm was clearly thinking about making his invention, the modern flute, play vertically. It apparently did not reach the prototype stage from which further developments were sure to evolve. If Böhm had continued experimenting and thinking through the various issues involved in creating and evolving the vertical flute, in my mind, there is no question his gift of genius would have established this alternative as the ideal combination of excellent acoustics and comfort for flutists who have ergonomic issues playing the transverse flute. This was one of the motivating factors for perfecting the UpRite, as I felt the continuation of this vital musical instrument technology is very important to having flutists, who normally discontinued playing for a variety of health reasons, continue effortlessly in the vertical mode of flute playing.



Original drawing by Theobald Böhm as authenticated and supplied by Ludwig Böhm, a family descendant, from the Theobald Böhm Archive in Germany.

New Volume 4 and 5 UpRite Demo Discs

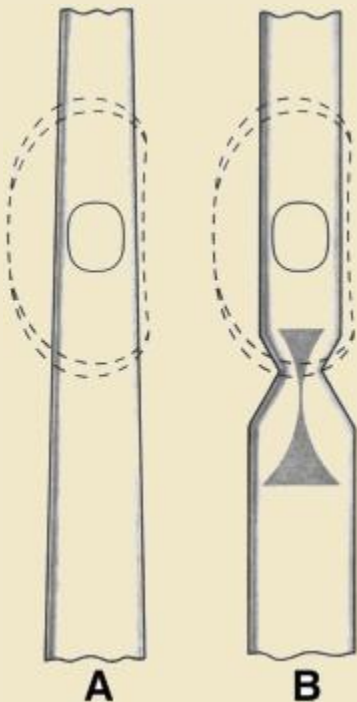


We are in the planning stage of producing 2 new UpRite demo discs. Volumes 1 through 3 are now available at our website on the HomeCooked CD label. The 2 new CDs have a proposed content as follows. Volume 4 will be a collection of flute works from the era of Theobald Böhm including works by him. Volume 5 will be dedicated to jazz using at least 80% standard tunes coupled with new compositions.

We invite professional flutists worldwide to perform on these discs. Those wanting to be considered for these recordings need not own an UpRite, as you would be provided one if we proceed with your proposal. To discuss further details of these recording projects, please telephone Sandy Drelinger directly at 914-946-6522.

2009-2010 New Headjoints

Introducing the New **Hourglass™** Headjoint



Since its invention virtually all Boehm system flutes use headjoints with the so-called "parabolic tapered curve tube", (figure A). In reality, the "parabolic tapered curve tube" is a non-linear tapered tube.

One of the functions of the headjoint tube is to enclose the air within the tube creating a pressure gradient between the enclosed air and the air immediately outside the top of the blow hole.

Drelinger's new **Hourglass** tube, (figure B from patent application drawings), goes one step further by enclosing the air within the tube in a manner which greatly improves the stability of the inner air providing a more efficient "air generator pattern".

The benefit of the **Hourglass** design is that it provides greater dynamic range (the difference between softer and louder). With the Hourglass a darker timbre no longer need be associated with the resistance of blowing, or wall-thickness.

Introducing the **SuprSilver 97™** Headjoint

SuprSilver 97 is Drelinger's trade name for an extremely pure silver, 97% pure in fact, versus the 92.5% of sterling. We have also created a cold working process that makes it significantly harder than our conventional sterling silver tube.

The result is a sound much like sterling with the added benefit of the perception of increased sweetness of sound in the top octave.



Introducing the **Bow-Tie® II** Piccolo Headjoint

Drelinger's new **Bow-Tie II** piccolo headjoint, (available in a variety of woods) is a step forward in piccolo headjoint design. It features a two-stage telescoping bore as compared to the single bore of conventional wood piccolo headjoints. The new design's top bore, pictured here (A, near the blow hole) creates the ideal acoustical environment for the top notes while the remaining larger bore (B) is the perfect size for the remaining second and first octaves. The result is an ease of blowing seamlessly throughout all octaves.

