Lifetime Dock Systems

Our Mission

To support and expand the sport of rowing by providing safe, well-designed, and reliable dock systems.

Our History

- We were founded by Howard Winklevoss in 2003. Mr. Winklevoss is passionate about expanding the sport of rowing and currently owns and operates the following rowing clubs:

  Saugatuck Rowing Club
  Westport, CT

  RowAmerica Greenwich
  Greenwich, CT

  RowAmerica Rye
  Rye, NY

- Our 50,000 sq ft manufacturing facility is located in Bridgeport, CT.

- Our dock systems have been installed throughout the United States. The Schuylkill River, Potomac River, and Charles River are some of the most well-known locations.

Our Commitment

- **Safety:** Our dock systems are engineered and designed with safety as the first and foremost priority.

- **25-Year Guarantee:** Our dock systems are built with the best materials and manufacturing methods in the industry. We have a 25-year guarantee to back up this promise.

- **Customer Service:** Having a dock out-of-commission due to repairs or improper mooring can cost a facility a great deal of time and money. We are committed to providing unparalleled service and support to our customers.

- **Financial Flexibility:** We understand many clubs may not have all of the funds upfront to purchase a new dock system. We offer financing to spread the investment over several years.

What Makes a RowAmerica Lifetime Dock System?

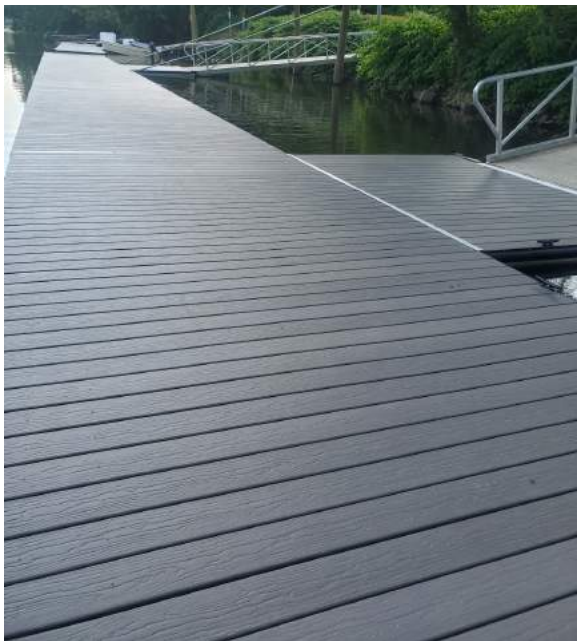
- Our dock systems are designed to eliminate dock issues for the next generations of rowers. In the next few pages, we will explore common rowing dock problems, and how our design provides long-term solutions.

The Problem

Wood Decking Requires Upkeep

- A lifetime rowing dock must be strong enough to sustain the weight of athletes and their boats and be fabricated with safe, durable material.

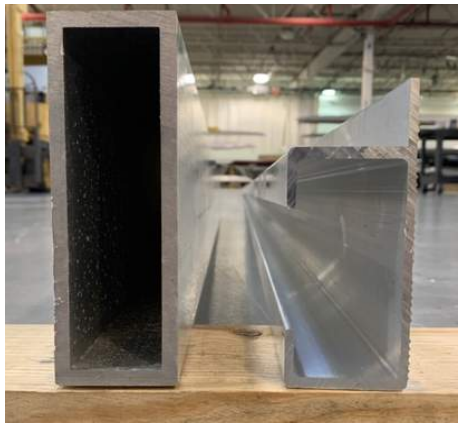
- In the past, most rowing docks were built with pressure-treated wood decking. This material is not ideal due to checking (splitting/cracking), splinters, water-logging, and eventually, rot. *Pressure-treated deck boards do not provide a lifetime dock.*



The RowAmerica (RA) Solution: Our decking is made of long-lasting synthetic material. The deck boards can be used near water (or under water, for that matter), and have a 25-year guarantee against mold or other damaging factors such as sunlight. Our decking manufacturer also incorporates technology that keeps the boards 35% cooler in the sun.

The Problem
Lack of Long-Term Durability

- The frame is the most important part of a rowing dock, and not all wood, plastic, or even aluminum dock frames can stand up to the test of time when it comes to everyday use and the elements.



The RA Solution: Our frames are built with marine-grade aluminum (6061-T6) and consist of a 2 inch by 6 inch rectangle tube, with ¼ inch thick aluminum (twice the thickness of most rowing docks).

Our heavy-duty box frame vs. typical C channel frame can be seen to the right.

This is the strongest dock frame in the industry, but there is more to its strength than just its size and thickness.

The corner construction is vitally important. Our dock frame has double gussets on each corner and each gusset is attached to the frame with both top and bottom welds. This greatly increases the frame's strength. An example of the heavy-duty gusset can be seen to the right.

The Problem

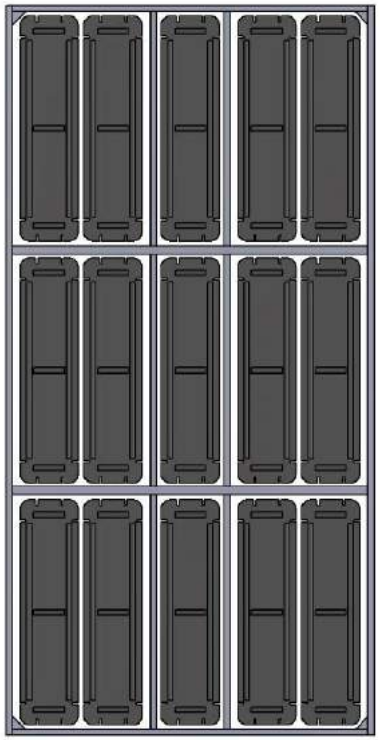
Improper Height and Poor Stability

- A dock's freeboard (height above the water) and stability are directly related to the size of its floats, their buoyancy, and how they are arranged under a dock's frame.

- A dock that is too high or too low makes it hard for crews to balance when launching or landing. Additionally, it's difficult for rowers to carry boats on unstable, sinking docks, and it provides for a poor experience.

The RA Solution: Our ***proprietary*** floats ensure the proper freeboard height for rowing (5-6 inches) **AND** allow us to have floatation under every inch of our docks.

Eight 200 pound rowers holding a 200 pound boat plus the weight of a cox and coach will not cause our docks to go below the water line. There are no other docks in the industry that exceed the strength and buoyancy of our docks.

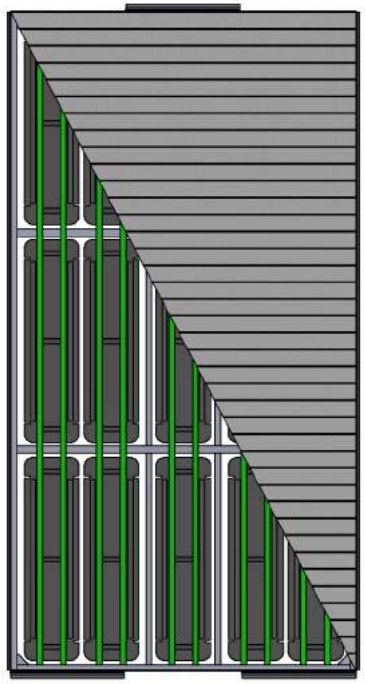


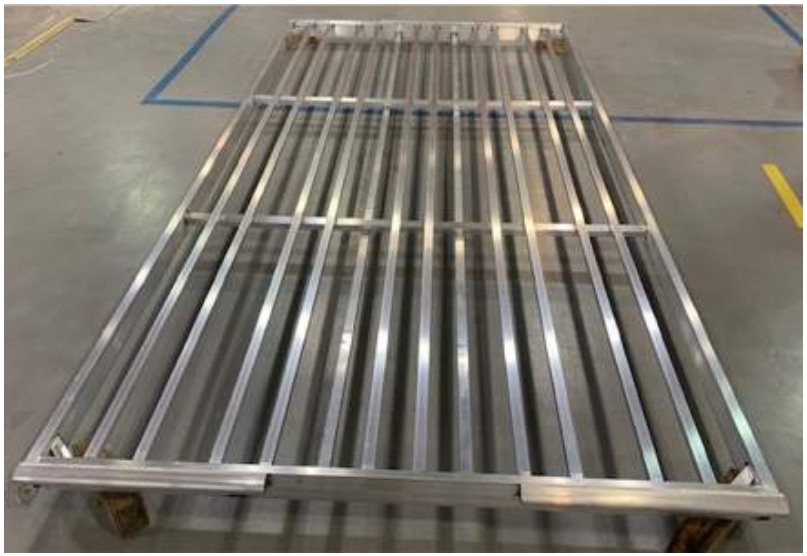
The Problem

Wavy, Loose Decking, Poor Debris Drainage

- If a dock doesn't have a grid separating its decking from its floats then over time decking becomes loose, warped or wavy, and creates tripping hazards. Additionally, debris builds up and will not clear even with heavy rain or a hose.

The RA Solution: We've created an aluminum grid that provides a structure for attaching floats on the bottom and boards on the top, placing a space of 1 ½ inch between them. (Aluminum grid shown in green in diagram and pictured below.) This allows for easy drainage and cleaning.

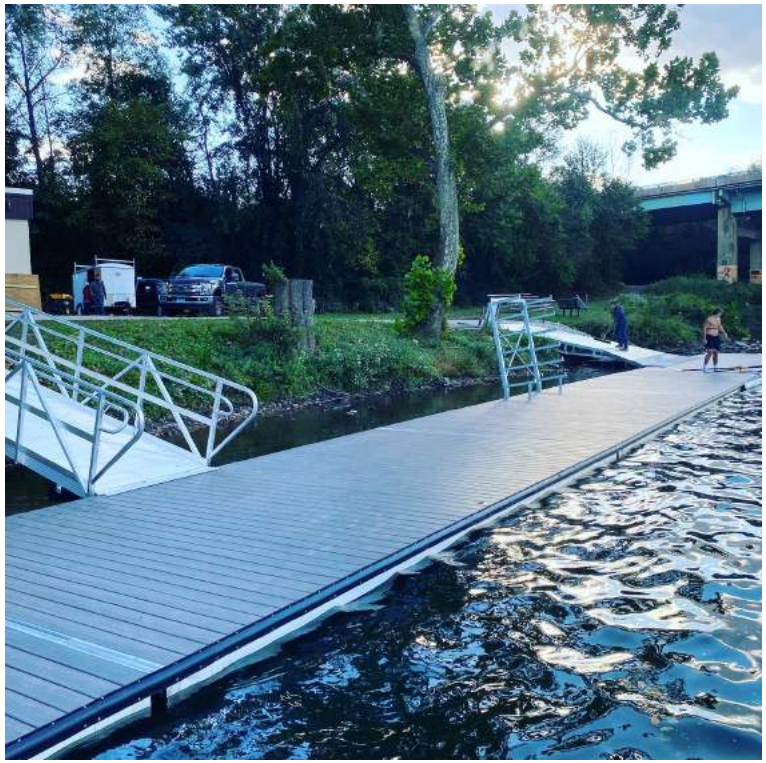




The Problem
Ineffective Bumpers

- If docks don't have proper bumpers, have ripped bumpers, or have nails sticking out, then rowing shells and riggers can become damaged. This leads to the need for repairs and time off the water.

The RA Solution: The rub-rail (bumper) on our docks does not have a flap over the deck boards, which is easily ripped off by rigger bolts. Instead, the rub-rail is a heavy-duty piece of black rubber that provides a safe and boat-friendly landing bumper when docking.



Configuration and Installation

- Our dock systems can include any combination of our docks, piers, ramps, and gangways.

Docks

Piers

Ramps

Gangways

- The dock sections are modular and can be configured to the width and length that is optimal for your site.

- Installations are often completed by our team. However, we can provide instructions and guidance for any crew that would prefer to complete their own installation.

- Mooring (how a dock is connected to land and secured in place) is critical to the long-term viability of a dock system. We will provide engineers to determine the optimal plan for your location if you have not done so already.

Conclusion

- Our dock systems provide a safe and reliable solution to an essential element of any rowing facility.
- We are committed to creating high performance environments, and will provide the best service available.
- Our dock systems come with a 25-year guarantee. They are a long-term investment for your community.

Next Steps

- Please contact Kate McFetridge (Dock Specialist) or Juergen Thiessen (Manufacturing Director) to get started.

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