



CHALK

"To see the world, things dangerous
to come to, to see behind walls, draw
closer, to find each other, and to feel.
That is the purpose of life."

— The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (2013)



Wolf's Fang, Antarctica



Ulvetanna, Antarctica



Ice Waves, Queen Maud Land

WE WERE PLANNING A MONTH
LONG EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA
INCLUDING SCUBA DIVING AND
VISITING THE SOUTH POLE.

WE WEREN'T PLANNING ON STARTING
A COMPANY.



USA Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station

FOR OUR ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION WE
SOUGHT OUT THE BEST GEAR ON THE
MARKET INCLUDING A BACKPACK THAT
WAS SUBMERSIBLE LEVEL WATERPROOF,
SUPER STRONG, LIGHT AND WOULD BE
ABLE TO KEEP EXPENSIVE HYDROPHOBIC
EQUIPMENT BONE DRY.

PEACE OF MIND WAS ESSENTIAL.



Co-Founder Martin Chalk

OUR SEARCH WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

WE KEPT COMING ACROSS ROLL TOPS,
WHICH WE DIDN'T WANT BASED ON THE
HASSLE OF OPENING AND CLOSING,
LEAKNG, CONDENSATION AND THE
NAGGING UNCERTAINTY AND TRUST IN
THE SEAL OF THE BAG.

WE ALSO TRIED WATERPROOF BAGS
FROM SOME OF THE MAJOR OUTDOOR
COMPANIES. AT SOME POINT THEY ALL
FAILED OUR RIGOROUS TESTING AND
SOMETIMES IT WAS A COSTLY FAIL.

SO...

WE TURNED TO FOURTH ELEMENT, WHO EVERY PROFESSIONAL HAD STRONGLY RECOMMENDED AS THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS FOR DRYSUITS. THEY OBLIGED WITH AN EARLY CUSTOM PROTOTYPE THAT MET MOST OF THE NEEDS OF OUR EXPEDITION.



BUT...WE KNEW WE COULD DO BETTER



Futaleufu River, Chile

British Columbia, Canada

AND SO BEGAN A 4YR DESIGN AND
TESTING PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GOAL
OF PRODUCING THE BEST POSSIBLE
WATERPROOF BACKPACK.

IN THE PROCESS WE MIGHT JUST HAVE
PRODUCED THE BEST OVERALL BACKPACK.





Cave Diving, Yucatán, Mexico

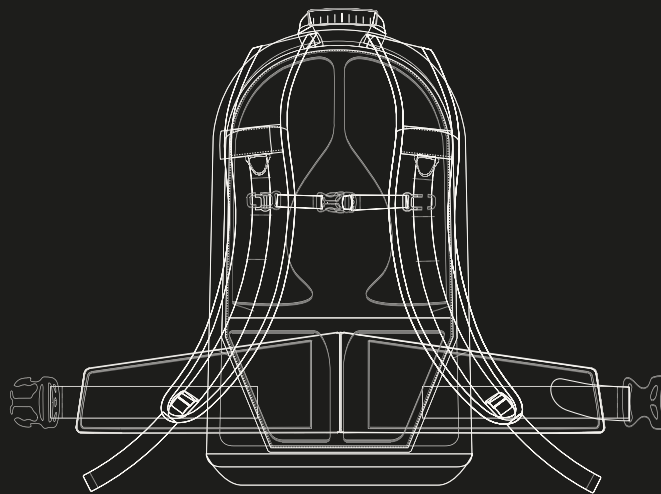


Okavango Delta, Botswana

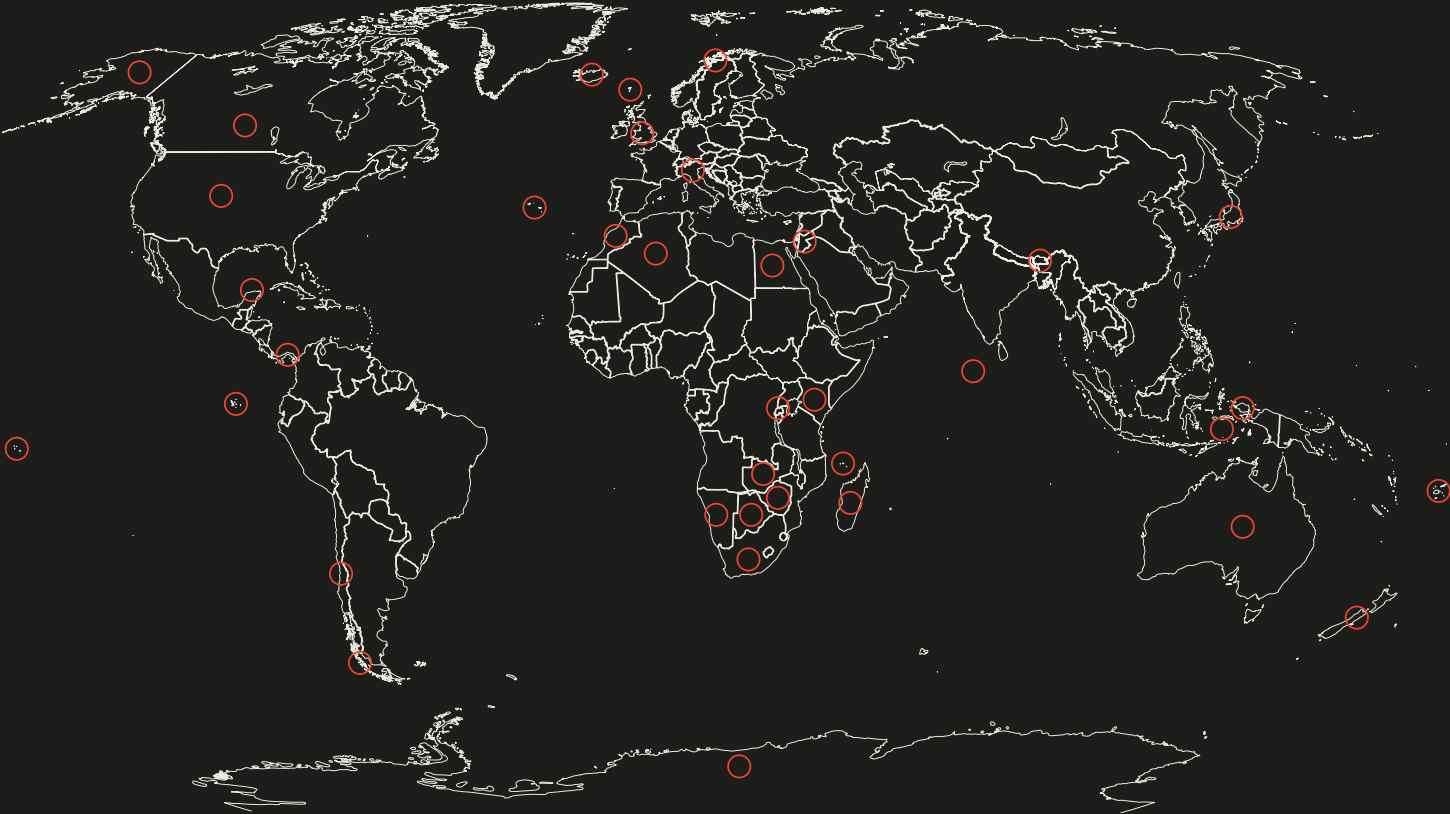
THE RESULTING BACKPACK, EP01 HAS
BEEN AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT.
WE HAD INPUT FROM PROFESSIONAL
GUIDES (MOUNTAIN, RIVER, FISHING,
TREKKING, DESERT AND SAILING)
ALONG WITH MILITARY SPECIAL
FORCES, PROFESSIONAL EXPLORERS,
CAVE DIVERS AND POLAR DIVERS.

EP01

THOUGHT THROUGH



PRODUCT TEST LOCATIONS



YOU WON'T NEED THE EXTREME
ENGINEERING ON OUR EQUIPMENT UNTIL
THE ONE TIME YOU DO...

...SUCH AS THE AIR ESCAPE VALVE
ON OUR BACKPACK ENABLING IT TO BE
USED SEMI-SUBMERGED.





Patagonia, Chile



Vancouver Island, Canada

THE 5 MOST IMPORTANT BACKPACK
FEATURES WE INCLUDED IN ORDER OF
PRIORITY ARE:



1 → WATERPROOF

BECAUSE IF YOUR CONTENTS GET WET IT WILL ABSOLUTELY RUIN YOUR DAY. ITEMS SUCH AS ELECTRONICS, DOWN JACKETS, CAMERAS AND LENSES, PAPER MATERIAL, EVEN FOOD. WATER, ESPECIALLY SALTWATER IS LETHAL.



2 → LIGHTWEIGHT

WEIGHT USED TO BE THE NO. 1
PRIORITY IN BACKPACKS UNTIL
WATERPROOFING IMPROVED. A SUPER
LIGHT BACKPACK LET'S YOU CARRY MORE
AND GO FURTHER.



WE'VE HAD WATERPROOF BAGS FROM OTHER COMPANIES SUFFER PIERCINGS, SHOULDER STRAP BREAKAGES, SPLIT SEAMS AND OTHER FAILURES. ALL IN FRUSTRATINGLY REMOTE LOCATIONS WHERE REPAIR WAS NOT POSSIBLE AND THE BAGS WERE RENDERED USELESS. THE EP01 IS RATED TO HANDLE 45LBS (20KG), HAS AN IMPENETRABLE BASE AND IS FREE STANDING (WON'T FALL OVER AND DIRTY THE SHOULDER STRAPS).



4 → COMFORTABLE

WEAR LONGER AND GO FURTHER. THE EP01 HAS WIDE SHOULDER STRAPS TO DISTRIBUTE HEAVY LOADS COMFORTABLY. THEY ARE DESIGNED TO ABSORB VERY LITTLE WATER AND DRY SUPER FAST. THE BACK PADDING IS NON-WATER ABSORBING AND THE AIRFLOW CONTOURING KEEPS THE BAG CLOSE BUT AVOIDS A SWEATY BACK ON HOT DAYS.



Nosy Anko, Madagascar

WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD DECIDE WHAT GOES WHERE AND NOT BE DICTATED TO BY THE BAG MANUFACTURER. WE DESIGNED CUSTOM CUBES SO THE BAG COULD BE STRUCTURED, SEMI-STRUCTURED OR UNSTRUCTURED. MILITARY MOLLE WEBBING ON THE SIDE ALLOWS FOR ACCESSORIES SUCH AS AN ADDITIONAL WATER BOTTLE, A FISHING ROD ETC. AND WE VERY DELIBERATELY DON'T HAVE A LAPTOP SLEEVE OR ICE AXE LOOPS.

Clayoquot, Canada



AS OUR COLLABORATION WITH FOURTH
ELEMENT GREW WE DISCOVERED THEY
HAD SOME OTHER PRODUCTS THAT WITH
SOME MODIFICATIONS WERE PERFECT
FOR THE GENERAL OUTDOOR MARKET.
THEIR SPORT CLOAKS AND BASE LAYERS
ARE TWO SUCH EXAMPLES...

...AND SO **CHALK** WAS BORN.



CHALK IS A PREMIUM AMERICAN
OUTDOOR GEAR COMPANY. WE DESIGN OUR
OWN PRODUCTS AND ALSO COLLABORATE
WITH OTHER SPECIALIST OUTDOOR
COMPANIES.

Undisclosed Location (for elephant
security purposes), Botswana



ADVANCED WEATHER PROTECTION

THESE 3 SPORT CLOAKS MAY BEAR SOME RESEMBLANCE TO TRADITIONAL PONCHOS BUT THAT'S WHERE THE COMPARISON ENDS

SHORELINE AKA 'THE FEATHERWEIGHT'

THE TAKE ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE OPTION.

DESIGNED TO PACK INTO ITS HOOD

- 10,000MM HH WATERPROOF
- 20,000G/M2/H BREATHABILITY
- 100% WINDPROOF
- 100% RECYCLED MATERIAL
- 0.3KG (9.6OZ)



STRONG AND BREATHABLE

STORM AKA 'THE ALL-ROUNDER'

ULTIMATE VERSATILITY. PERFECT FOR ALL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES WHERE YOU AREN'T NECESSARILY CARRYING IT LONG DISTANCES E.G. SPECTATING, BOATING, FISHING, CAMPING, HUNTING AND ALL SPORTS.

FLEECE BACKING WITH S CAFE® TECHNOLOGY FOR WICKING AND TEMPERATURE REGULATION.

- 2 LINED HAND WARMER POCKETS
- 10,000MM HH WATERPROOF
- 100% WINDPROOF
- 37% RECYCLED MATERIAL
- 1.1KG (2.4LBS)



MEDIUM WEIGHT – SUPER STRONG

TIDAL AKA 'THE BEAR'

FULL LENGTH FRONTAL ZIP AND SUPER SOFT FLEECE LINED CLOAK FOR STAYING IMPERVIOUS TO THE WORST WEATHER. ROOMY ENOUGH FOR GETTING CHANGED UNDER.

- LINED HAND WARMER POCKETS
- LINED INTERNAL CHEST POCKET
- 10,000MM HH WATERPROOF
- 20,000 G/M2/24H BREATHABILITY
- 100% WINDPROOF
- 100% RECYCLED MATERIAL
- 1.25KG (2.8 LBS)



ULTIMATE COZINESS

J2 BASELAYERS

THIS IS NOT JUST ANOTHER BASELAYER. IT HAS LITERALLY SAVED LIVES. ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED FOR THE USA DEEP CAVE DIVING TEAM BY A GROUP AT FOURTH ELEMENT WITH THE HELP OF A NASA PRODUCT ENGINEER. IT WAS USED ON AN EXPEDITION WHERE OTHER BASELAYERS (BOTH MERINO AND SYNTHETIC) HAD PREVIOUSLY CAUSED SKIN INFECTIONS AND RASHES AFTER 20 DAYS OF CONTINUOUS USE IN CONSTANT WET CONDITIONS. THE CAVE DIVERS WENT 42 DAYS WITHOUT TAKING OFF THE J2 AND HAD ZERO SKIN PROBLEMS AND STAYED WARM. THE J2 IS NOW A POPULAR DRYSUIT LAYER FOR ALL CONDITIONS AND IS IN USE BY CERTAIN BRITISH SPECIAL FORCE REGIMENTS IN BOTH HOT AND COLD CLIMATES.



EXTREME PERFORMANCE – ARGUABLY WORLD'S BEST BASELAYER

THE TESTER

MARTIN CHALK

MARTIN BREAKS STUFF.
NOT DELIBERATELY, BUT HE'S HARD
ON EQUIPMENT. HE'S A PILOT, DIVER,
OCEAN SAILOR, SURFER, SKIER,
CLIMBER ETC. ETC.

LIKE MOST AUSSIES, HE LOVES
EXPLORING AND A GOOD ADVENTURE. HE
HAS TRAVELLED LIGHTLY AND QUIETLY
TO SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST REMOTE
AND STILL 'UNKNOWN' PLACES AND
SPENT TIME LAUGHING WITH LOCALS IN
112 COUNTRIES.

IF OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT HAS A FLAW
HE WILL QUICKLY FIND IT.



THE DESIGNER

LEONARDO LENCHIG

LIKE HIS NAMESAKE, LEONARDO IS A TALENTED ITALIAN ARTIST AND INVENTOR WHO LOVES GREAT DESIGN.

LEONARDO TRAINED AS AN ARCHITECT AND AS A CLASSICAL ARTIST. HE GRAVITATED TOWARDS PRODUCT DESIGN OUT OF A LOVE FOR PRODUCTS THAT WERE WELL THOUGHT THROUGH AND OUT OF A FRUSTRATION FOR PRODUCTS THAT WEREN'T.

LEONARDO DESIGNS IT AND MARTIN AND THE CHALK AMBASSADORS AND FRIENDS PUT IT TO THE TEST.



British Columbia, Canada





Harvard undefeated National
Rowing Champions 2024, 2025





chalkoutdoor.com