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The Journey of (SA) Tango's Daylight

as told by Ross Millin

In February 2015, Kris Swanson was with Ross Millin at Tears & Roses Stables in Paarl, South Africa, watching Junior Hugo working NEWLINE STUD's horses.



The moment Kris Swanson saw Tango's Daylight

A chestnut horse with no markings was in the jog bike and put up a grand show. Kris asked who was this incredible horse, and "is he for sale"? He was the two times SA Fine Harness Grand Champion, (SA) Tango's Daylight and a horse Ross had wanted to buy for himself some time ago. Junior phoned his breeder/owner, Koos Fourie and he was indeed for sale and after negotiating a price, Swanson Investments LLC and Newline Stud were soon the new owners of this magnificent stud!



The initial plan was for Junior to show him again in 2015 attempting to win the SA Grand Championship Title for a third time and thereafter Kris would show him in the Amateur Fine Harness Division in South Africa. They would also try to export frozen semen to the US. Junior took him to Bloemfontein 2015 and won the Stallion/Gelding Fine Harness qualifier, but in the process sheared his heel on the Friday night. It was a great disappointment, and Tango would not show back in the Grand Championship.

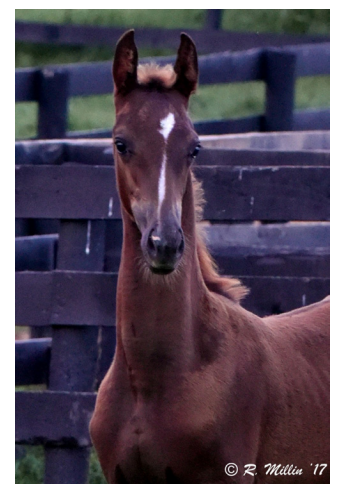
Another thought was that Tango would be a great outcross in the US, especially with his maternal line, however his new owners tried unsuccessfully for months to export frozen semen to the US, finding out that frozen semen

from a stallion residing in South Africa would not be allowed in the United States. A new plan would be to take him all the way to the States and allowing one year to train and condition him after the long quarantine and possibly show him at Louisville. It was a long shot, but worth a try.

The long process to get him to Kentucky started in December 2015. He stood one month in quarantine in Wellington, South Africa and in January 2016 was shipped to the tropical island of Mauritius where he would stay for 3 months, and swim in the Indian Ocean, before he would depart for Germany, where he would stay another 6 weeks and the final tests for piroplasmosis done before he would start his journey to Kentucky. In May 2016 he arrived in Lexington, Kentucky and after frozen semen was collected at Cornerstone, he went to Nelson Green for training in September 2016. His training went well although he lost lots of conditioning and was very unfit after his quarantine journey of almost 7 months on 3 continents.



Unfortunately he was not ready for Louisville 2017 and it appeared would take another year, or more, to get him ready. Giving his age and as the original idea was to import him as a breeding stallion, the decision was made by his owners to return him to Fred Sarver's Cornerstone where he now will stand at stud. They were disappointed that American Saddlebred enthusiasts would not be able to see him in the show-ring, but knew that his progeny will make up for that. His first foals were born in 2017 and look the part. It is apparent that his owners' decision in bringing this unique stallion to America was very sound. Tango's journey to success continues!



2017 Foal Of Katharine The Great (WC)