This is a great knot to use instead of a surgeon's knot, especially if you're using a fluorocarbon tippet. Why? Because using a surgeon's knot, any breakage will almost always occur at the tippet knot (unless you're using a very weak knot at the fly). If you're using strong tippet material such as Rio, Orvis or Stroft, this tippet knot will give you the full strength of the tippet you paid for. This knot is the strongest known knot for tying on a fluorocarbon tippet, and is second only to the ligature knot for nylon. In 6X tippet material, this can mean a full pound more strength than a surgeon's knot.

This is called the Orvis tippet knot, because it won a contest run by Orvis about fifteen years ago to discover a new and stronger knot. There are three variations, the tippet knot, a loop knot, and a hook knot. In this example, the leader is to the left (red) and the tippet is to the right (blue).

Overlap the ends about four inches. (Figure 1) Holding the two lines on the leader (left) side, form a loop as shown in Figure 2. This is important: in these knots, all turns go around the same way and each turn is in a loop above the last.

Now bring the right ends (leader end and tippet body) behind the loop you formed in Figure 1, through it and up. (Figure 3) Do it again, so there are two turns of the right ends through the loop. (Figure 4)

leader

tippet

Figure 1

tippet

Figure 2

tippet

leader

Figure 3

Figure 4

Lubricate the knot (saliva, floatant or knot lube) and tighten by pulling the right ends and the left ends away from each other. Pull hard to seat the knot. As with all knots, properly setting the knot is essential for the knot to have full strength.

Give this knot a try; we think you will be pleasantly surprised!!