the LINLEY Chinese-made copies:

Although whoever decided to have my hinges copied clearly knew enough to understand the significant advantages of the **smartHinge** over anything else available, he [or she] failed to grasp that slavishly measuring and cheaply mass-producing a top quality product doesn't give you a top quality product. It gives you junk.

The way in which an item of this sort is manufactured - the choice of processes, the order in which they're performed, the materials used and so on - determines the quality of the end result. Accuracy is paramount, and it's clear that whatever processes have been used to produce your copies aren't up to producing anything like the consistency and fine tolerances necessary to make a quality hinge of this sort.

Consequently, having 'copied' this excellent design, but failed to take into consideration the accuracy required, or the manufacturing challenges necessary to achieve that accuracy, your copies are such poor quality that they don't benefit from any of the advantages of the originals. You may as well be using any old hinges. So long as they're cheap and pretty, of course.

other hinges:

Your assertion that there are many similar hinges available is simply wrong. There are plenty of other box hinges out there, certainly, but the quality is almost always poor, most are 'L' shaped with separate stays, or are siderail hinges relying on a stay, or on a square or partially square knuckle to achieve the stop which is always ugly and always compromises the ease of fitting.

Brusso, the popular 'high end' box hinge manufacturers [mainly known for their ugly, over-engineered, hard-to-fit and expensive quadrants] have now produced a siderail hinge, perhaps pushed into offering something similar by the popularity of the **smartHinge**. But even Brusso, who clearly have top quality manufacturing facilities at their disposal, don't attempt a hinge with the stop incorporated into the knuckle, so the siderail hinges they offer also have square knuckles, so don't compete with the **smartHinge**.

There is one other hinge that has solved these problems, the neathinge 2 from Ian Hawthorne. But as far as I know he now only uses this for his own work [some of which he does for you, I believe] and it is no longer commercially available.

These hinges are ALL different, each with different advantages and disadvantages, there are NOT a lot of similar ones out there, and to claim that there are is simply ill-informed.