



BESPOKEPLUS



"If your work speaks for itself don't interrupt"

CSMC – Rehacare - Tennis

The Canadian Seating & Mobility Conference (CSMC) presented by VGM, is on September 12-13, 2023, at the Delta Hotels by Marriott-Toronto Hotel & Conference Centre. This is the premier educational event for seating, mobility, and rehab technology professionals from across Canada. Each year it offers educational and networking opportunities that bring businesses, manufacturers, and industry experts together so they can share and learn about the latest developments in the industry. Attending this conference provides those working in the industry an opportunity to develop skills and learn about new products. This gives them the opportunity to deliver the highest level of service to the people using the products. Fortunately, the end user of the product is also scanning the net to get the latest info, so they know where to go to get their needs met. It is unfortunate the end user shows have not had the industry support to enable them to



continue. Compliments to the SCI organizations across the country who are starting to mobilize memberships to attend mini events where industry folks are also invited.

This year we will have the Rehasense product line front row and center along with all the other products we offer. The most recent product from

Rehasense is the ECO Assist shown here which will be a **NEW PRODUCT ON DISPLAY** at \$5,250.00 MSRP.

Hall of Fame

Congratulations to the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Michelle Stilwell, and our own Chantal Benoit on the announcement that they will be inducted into the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame on October 13th, 2023.



The Right Honourable Stephen J. Harper dedicated significant efforts and resources towards improving the lives of people with disabilities. As Canada's 22nd Prime Minister, he empowered a team in cabinet and through Federal appointments that would help make life better for the community including the Registered Disability Savings Plan in 2008 and Paralympic funding initiatives.



Michelle Stilwell is a six-time gold medallist in wheelchair basketball and athletics, and a nine-time world champion. Stilwell has excelled in politics and business serving two terms as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in British Columbia, is an active member of multiple national and international boards, as well as overseeing operations of a public speaking company.



Chantal Benoit is widely recognized as one of the greatest female wheelchair basketball players in history. She achieved remarkable success over more than two decades with the national team program and is a seven-time Paralympian with three gold medals and a bronze and a four-time world champion. Her contributions to the sport and advocacy for inclusivity led to her appointment to the Order of Canada and the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation Gold Medal Triad Award for her impact on the sport's growth. She is immensely proud of the honour of having a school bear her name (École élémentaire Chantal-Benoit) and is dedicated to providing as much support as she can to see that French immersion school be successful in achieving its educational, linguistic, inclusivity, sport, and active living goals.

Pedaling Possibilities



The TEAM is in Alberta now. The media attention has grown and Kevin, NikkiD, Candace, and the Team are doing a great job of staying on course on their cross Canada trip designed to:

1. To promote activity-based therapy (ABT);
2. To promote accessibility for all;
3. To promote inclusivity in community;
4. To establish an accessible bike route in Canada;
5. To show anything is possible for all ability levels.

Check out their website for more information www.pedalingpossibilities.ca and look at some great pictures of the tour on their gallery section.

Softwheels Technology

Softwheels are no longer fulfilling orders and parts are no longer available. We have not received any statement as to what the issues are and although the web site is still online the company is no longer active as a provider of suspension wheels for wheelchairs.

The company has parlayed their fundraising success into a new venture that they have been able to raise a significant amount of capital for in the automotive sector. The going concern web site is now WWW.REE.AUTO (logo is R3E). With the significant funding raised, they have developed a vehicle concept "Powered by REE" which is equipped with "REEcorner™", taking care of vehicle components such as steering, braking, suspension, powertrain, and control into a



single compact module positioned between the chassis and the wheel. With this proprietary by-wire technology for drive, steer, and brake control that eliminate the need for mechanical connections, all four identical REEcorners™ enable REE to build the industry's flattest electric vehicle (EV) platforms with more room for passengers, cargo and batteries. "REE platforms are future proofed, autonomous capable, offer a low total cost of ownership (TCO), and drastically reduce the time to market for fleets looking to electrify".

At the end of Q2 2023 they apparently have liquidity of \$105 million US dollars. They have a few vehicles on the road now apparently and plan to ramp up to produce 300 more in 2024. They are targeting \$1 Billion US in sales by the end of 2026; but no Softwheel production!

Loopwheels www.Loopwheels.com are alive and well providing suspension product for our industry.

Softwheels:Technology REE.AUTO is looking for more investors as they will require an additional \$50 million to ramp up production and they have chosen to do that in a non-GAAP fashion. For those like this writer who are not familiar with all the acronyms that would mean non-generally accepted accounting principles.

It is unfortunate that this company has not seen the value in letting their former customers know why they are no longer selling their premium priced products for this industry and why they are not providing parts and pieces to those that require them; while their wheels are sitting collecting dust. One thing is for sure, this writer will not be investing in a company that treats its former customers in this fashion.

Wheels, Tires, and Tubes



We have run out of room to showcase all the wheels we carry in stock for same day shipping along with tires and tubes. Suffice to say we stock all that are available in the market and complete those shipments with the push rims required. Although Schwalbe Marathon

Plus and Right Runs are most popular, we stock Kenda, Sentinel, Innova, IRC, Primo, Cheng Shing, CEW, etc., it is important to note that Trailblazer and Gazelle are starting to sell more due in part to being on OEM order forms.

Bits and Bytes

- 49 CSMC Sep 12-13, 2023 Toronto, ON;
- 49 Rehacare Sep 13-16, 2023, Dusseldorf, Germany;
- 49 Birmingham Tennis September 14-17, Toronto, ON;
- 49 Open BBQ September 27, 2023, at 49 Bespoke;
- 49 Sure Grip Int Tennis October 7-10, Fredericton, NB;
- 49 Tennis Nationals October 12-15, 2023, Bedford NS;
- 49 OSOT Conference London, ON Oct 27-28, 2023
- 49 REE March 2024, Richmond Olympic Oval, BC.

BESPOKE PLUS is the newsletter of 49 Bespoke Inc., which markets products from around the world designed to better meet the needs of people with a disability.

We have grown up in sport, have a social service background, and have adopted an advocacy role in our business practice. **Comments are welcome.**