



# BESPOKEPLUS



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

## PAWS HD 160 Kgs



Called for and delivered! The industry is responding quickly to the needs of people using power add on equipment. The folks at Rehasense heard the request for heavier duty products and have built tested and certified the Tourer and special order models for 160 kgs riders.

Cruiser  
In addition, they are on track doing their manufacturing magic to come up with rides for 200 kgs users. All this with multiple tire choices, beefy engines, manual and auto clamping, track assistance, cruise control, full display manipulation, a myriad of braking options, a long list of accessories for both para and quad users, and you can still take it on a plane with a 48 V travel battery under 300 WH!

On another note, the PAWS ECO Assist has arrived coming in with all the options for para's and quad's complete and good to go for under \$5,500.00!

## REE in Review



Once again, we enjoyed the opportunity to showcase our products at REE held annually at the Richmond Oval. We spoke with a number of prescribers, dealers, and did some networking, but have a hard time justifying the expense when we do not have a shop in the area and end up shipping product back and forth. We hope that folks running REE look at bringing the end user (general public) back to the show even if it means expanding it to a two-day event. All in all, great job Ian Denison and all the others at G F Strong and beyond for keeping the event alive. Thank You!

## Nominations Open



The 31<sup>st</sup> Induction for the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame will take place at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel Concert Hall Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 11:30 am – Reception 12:00 pm – Luncheon / Awards and the Presenting Sponsor Is the CIBC Foundation. Inductees at this event will be named in July 2024 along with the Guest Speaker.

You have until May 06, 2024 to send your nominations into the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons, 6 Sakura Way, Suite 265, Toronto, Ontario M3C 1Z5. For further information Telephone: 416-760-7351, Fax: 416-760-9405 E-mail: [whynot@cfpdp.com](mailto:whynot@cfpdp.com) and you can visit the Web: [www.cfpdp.com](http://www.cfpdp.com) for the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame [NOMINATION FORM](#).

## Batec News



Batec Mobility is a company dedicated to providing innovative and high-quality mobility solutions for a worldwide audience. Their new website has an active blog, opportunity to join the Batec Club, shows all the current product offerings, and a host of resources. We have a full inventory of the Mini 2, E2, Rapid 2, Hybrid 2, and Scrambler 2. Note the compare and choose link to get an overview on all and the compatibility link showing all units that this product has been tested on and which wheelchair manufacturers are offering the docking mechanism on their order forms.

Batec strengthened the quality process in their products and services by becoming certified with ISO 13485 for medical device management and ISO 14001 for environmental management, further committing themselves to sustainability.

See [www.Batec-Mobility.com](http://www.Batec-Mobility.com)

## Motion Rehab Shows



We are looking forward to the first Motion Cares events of 2024 in Calgary, AB Wednesday, April 17 and Edmonton, AB Thursday, April 18 (we will miss the event in Lethbridge this year). The booth will have Rehasense product line along with Varilite, Batec, GTM, and an overview of the products we market and promote.



Ben Fitman from Rehasense USA will be on hand to answer questions and do product demonstrations.

## 30 Years Ago



March 21st, 2015, marked the start of the Man in Motion World Tour. Rick, Amanda, and a host of other supporters will be getting together to mark the

30<sup>th</sup> anniversary while honouring the hard work, determination, and faith in Rick and the project with a celebratory luncheon Friday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver.

In 30 years, Rick and all his volunteers and employees along with many other individuals and groups have made an incredible impact. Through the Rick Hansen Foundation and their partnerships, the quality of life for thousands has improved which has contributed to better health outcomes and has spread awareness for accessibility and the potential of people with disabilities. But, as Rick always says, our best work is yet to come. He goes on to underline that there are over a billion people living with a disability and that figure is growing every day. The need for removing physical barriers and addressing the social, economic, and attitudinal barriers is becoming greater each day as well and we must all rise to the occasion to continue to address the issues.

In the next phase of the journey, Rick invites everyone to join in creating a global movement to liberate the amazing potential of people with disabilities. *“By removing barriers, changing attitudes, and engaging with communities and networks, we will inspire real change resulting in accessibility and inclusivity for all!”*

## HOF Canada and USA

Congratulations to wheelchair basketball in North America honouring Dave Durepos, Sabrina Durepos, and Walter Dan in Canada and Dalene Hunter, Andrea Woodson-Smith, and Cheryl Vines to their respective Canadian and USA Hall of Fame.

## Marv - Mr. President



Marvin Joseph Lapicola born June 10, 1933 – passed away March 6, 2024. At 90 years of age, he had as much passion for wheelchair basketball as he did 75 years ago as a member of the Illinois Gizz Kids or later with the California Western Wheels and the Chicago Sidewinders. He lived in Schaumburg, Illinois with his wife Phyllis.

Marv was the Co-Holder of NWBT Record for Field Goals in a 5-game tourney (established in 1969), a Member of the USA Paralympic Basketball Team (1964-Tokyo), National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) Executive Committee Vice President from 1970-1975, and President of the NWBA from 1976-2000. More information is on the [www.NWBA.org](http://www.NWBA.org) web site.

Love to Phyllis, the Lapicola family, NWBA friends, and those that knew Marv the pioneer and holder of every role in the game over seven plus decades!

## Bits and Bytes

- 49 CAOT Conference May 1-3, 2024, Halifax, NS;
- 49 Prairie Heart Show May 7, 2024 Regina, SK;
- 49 Prairie Heart Show May 9, 2024 Saskatoon, SK;
- 49 Brandon Mobility Show May, 2024 Brandon, MB;
- 49 Access Expo Ottawa June 27, 2024;
- 49 Access Expo Kingston July 11, 2024;
- 49 Access Expo Toronto July 24, 2024;
- 49 Access Expo Hamilton August 1, 2024;
- 49 Access Expo Peterborough August 20, 2024;
- 49 Rehacare Suzou Ctr., China, August 21-23, 2024;
- 49 Access Expo London August 29, 2024;
- 49 CSMC Toronto, ON September 10-11, 2024;
- 49 Rehacare Dusseldorf, DE September 25-28, 2024.

**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.**