



BESPOKE PLUS

"Enhancing Quality of Life!"

October 2007

ISCIC Edition

Volume 5, Number 60

RGK Manufacture

BESPOKE

(custom made)

Rigid wheelchairs
for daily use and
active living.



Welcome to ISCIC 2007

RGK Wheelchairs, Inc. is proud to participate as a sponsor and exhibitor at the **Interurban Spinal Cord Injury Conference (ISCIC)** to be held at the Hamilton Convention Center. This event was initiated in 1981 in Syracuse, New York to bring together personnel from Spinal Cord Injury Treatment Centres, and researchers, to provide a sharing of expertise and creative thinking. This event has been hosted by Buffalo, Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, London and Hamilton and has had attendees from across Canada and the USA.

This conference's theme is **Research to Reality** and the Co-Chairs of the Organizing Committee **Rosemary Bellefeuille** and **Roy Broadbent** are thrilled to announce that they have very exciting and well-respected speakers lined up, to address the various areas of Living with Chronic Health Issues,, Neurological Repair and Recovery, Motivating Clients, Complementary Health Modalities, and Independent Living. They include a keynote address from Ed Smith, Med and plenary speakers John Bach, MD, Robert Buckman, MD, PhD, Brian Drew, MD, Linda M. Rapson, MD, CAFCI, Eva Widerstrom-Noga, DDS, PhD. Workshop presenters are Marian Belciug PhD, CPsych, Adrian Dieleman BA, MRE, Graham L. Jones BSc, MSc, PhD, MD, FRCPC, FCCP, Karen Martindale RRT, BA, Bus.Dipl., Reny Vaughan, RRT, David Koo, MD, FRCPC, Tara Jeji, MD, MBA, Sander L. Hitzig, MA, Dianna Mah-Jones, BScOT, MA, OT(c), Kristin Balfanz-Vertiz, LSW, MSW, and Jacek M. Kwiecien, DVM, MSc, PhD. For more information on this event, look on-line at: <http://spinalcordinterurban.org>.

Thanks For The Support

RGK Wheelchairs, Inc., distributes RGK Products, **VARILITE**® Seating Systems, **KENDA** Tires and Tubes, and **KiMobility** Products in Canada. We also work with a host of other quality manufacturers of parts and pieces to allow us to bring product to market that is better, stronger, and lighter!

We take this opportunity to thank the folks that use, prescribe, and manufacture our products.

Last issue we relayed that we were being challenged on the delivery date of **BESPOKE** (one off units that require 100% customization) product, and this issue we highlight the work done by **VARILITE**®, a division of Cascade Designs, which is second to none. A smooth manufacturing process in Seattle, Washington to produce numerous products incorporating the unique, patented air foam flotation technology has been virtually flawless in our five year relationship resulting in 96% of that product being able to be shipped from our Ottawa, Ontario Factory Outlet the same day it is ordered. Our large inventory enables us to provide unparalleled service to the person using the product and the dealer network.

If you experience any delays in delivery at all there is less than a 4% possibility that it is related to a back order or shipping issue; it is more likely related to a policy effective January 2007 where a retail store got behind on paying an invoice and we held shipments until those payments were made. This occurred in 5% of the dealer network as it related to **VARILITE**® products.

As a reminder, the **e-Back**™, latest in the **EVOLUTION**™ **Back** series, does have ADP numbers for Ontario residents and will ship this month; more at www.varilite.ca.





Ki Mobility

"Ki," pronounced "key," are developing products that provide optimal performance for the end user. They design and build the lightest, cost effective, and most energy efficient folding wheelchair available on the market and we distribute it in Canada!

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SCI Leadership

We had the pleasure of working with the Neil Squire Foundation this month as one of the sponsors for SCI Model Centers PT/OT Leadership Forum held in Vancouver, BC. Thank you Katrina Tilley for the follow up letter shown here! (Click to enlarge)

ERGO Seat

RGK has been producing ERGO seating in their range of wheelchairs since the 90's. They supported the development of a body of work by Drs. Kees van Brueklen on this subject and he produced a paper in 2000 which finally made it to the Canadian Seating and Mobility Conference (CSMC) 19-21 of September, 2007.



ERGO seating is about the development of the wheelchair seat rail to use the most positive properties of the flat seat and the wedge seat to enhance the sitting posture, torso stability, pressure distribution, and wheelchair propulsion abilities for the end user. This "all purpose" seat is presented as a positive contribution for end users and you may check out our booth at ISCIC or email info@4RGK.com for more information.

Bits and Bytes

- www.ParticiPaction.com receives 5.4 Million in new funding October 15;
- Occupational Therapist Month – Yes I Can! On-line www.caot.ca;
- 2010 WWRC Bid and Site Visit BCWSA October 22, Vancouver, BC.;
- Interurban Spinal Cord Conference October 25-26, Hamilton, ON.;
- Shoppers Home Health Care Innovations Show November 2, Calgary, AB.;
- Shoppers Home Health Care Innovations Show November 20, Toronto, ON.;
- Medigas Conference November 14-15, Ottawa, ON.

BESPOKE PLUS helps to market and promote RGK Wheelchairs, **VARILITE**® Seating and Positioning Systems, **KENDA** Tires, **KiMobility** and other products; back issues on www.4RGK.com. Check out these sites as well: www.spinergy.com www.rogue-wheels.com www.glancewheels.com www.sunmetal.com www.vulcanwheels.com www.nhawk.com www.deacon.se www.mbl.dk www.x-corewheels.com www.3rivers.com www.froglegsinc.com www.kiktire.com <http://www.schwalbetires.com>

If you have something that you think we should be expounding on, please contact the editor, Reg McClellan.



We use technology, knowledge and passion to empower Canadians with physical disabilities

October 18, 2007



The SCI Model Centers Occupational and Physical Therapy Leadership Forum

The 29th Annual SCI Model Centers Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Leadership Forum was held for the second time in Canada in Vancouver, British Columbia on October 10 - 13, 2007. It was an excellent learning experience, a fabulous sharing and networking opportunity and a great deal of fun.

The Forum was organized by the Neil Squire Society and Vancouver Coastal Health. It was an exciting event with over 50 Physical and Occupational Therapists attending from many of the prestigious centers in the USA that currently hold or have recently held the federally funded designation of Model System of Spinal Cord Injury Care. This included therapists from the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Shepherd Spinal Center of Atlanta, Craig Rehabilitation Center of Denver, Kessler Rehabilitation Center of New Jersey, Texas Institute of Research and Rehabilitation and Rusk Rehabilitation and Mount Sinai of New York, the National Rehabilitation Center in Washington, DC, to name a few. We were also fortunate to have PT's and OT's from the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton, the Foothills Medical Centre in Calgary, Vancouver General Hospital and G. F. Strong Rehabilitation Centre in Vancouver.

The purpose of this meeting was:

1. To maintain an ongoing forum for exchange of administrative, clinical, and educational information between OT's and PT's who are affiliated with the specialized care of individuals with spinal cord injury.
2. To present current topics relevant to spinal cord injury in an atmosphere that encourages both formal learning and active interchange of ideas.
3. To review and critique presently available equipment and products.
4. To identify, review, and update present research efforts and provide a forum for research collaboration.
5. To provide a forum for networking with colleagues.
6. Assemble and disseminate information and guidelines in written form to appropriate sources.

This professional SCI Leadership Forum would not have been possible without the support and sponsorship of many organizations including:

- RGK Wheelchairs Inc.
- Neil Squire Society
- Invacare Inc.
- Medichair Vancouver
- BC Rehab
- Pride Mobility Products, Ltd.



Thank you very much. Please contact Katrina Tilley, OT, Neil Squire Society if you would like further information at ktilley@neilsquire.ca

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