



"Only in the success of having risked and triumphed can we build our security from within. It is the only security that can never be taken away." Carl Hiebert

On request from Joe Millage Director of Business

Development and Ross Miller with Shoppers Home Health Care we provided equipment sponsorship (Ki Mobility Catalyst 5 Titanium) for Carl Hiebert for his (and wife Deb) trip around the world in 56 days!

I have had the pleasure of listening to Carl's "Gift of Wings" presentation where he displayed his speaking talents and photography prowess and look forward to the next one. Carl's story is on-line at:

www.giftofwings.ca

Time Flies

Although there is nothing definitive when questioning where the phrase comes from "time flies when you're having fun", there is a lot on the phrase "time flies". A pair of scientists in Edmonton, Dr. Anthony Chaston and Dr. Alan Kingstone, gained some recognition for their research confirming that "time flies when you are busy". This study reminded me of the first job I had after ending up in a chair, an accessibility study at the U of A that might have been a bit of a make work project at the time. Anyway, we have had a busy couple of months that have delayed our Bespoke Plus ruminations. I chalk it up to a shortage of human resources and a commitment to meet the daily needs of running the business.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the folks at the AADL Program in Alberta, the SAIL program in Saskatchewan (catching up with Ernie Blanchette former competitor in wheelchair basketball for Saskatchewan and long time employee with SaskAbilities), participating in my first ADP meetings, attending the International Seating Symposium, and stopping by dealers shops where the work is really being done and assisting with script development on the phone or in the field.

Thank You - Raptors Foundation

In another life I spoke a lot with Beverly Deeth, then Executive Director of the Raptors Foundation, because that foundation assisted significantly in the growth and development of the game of wheelchair basketball in Canada. Since their formation in 1995, the Raptors Foundation has been helping charitable organizations across Ontario to make life better for children and youth. The Raptors Foundation accomplishments include:

- No. 1 charitable organization in the NBA!
- approximately \$1 million raised annually for local charities
- \$50,000 in Raptors merchandise donated each year
- 1000's of Raptors game tickets donated annually to children and youth charities
- committed to our community through Urban Renewal Projects including basketball court installations and refurbishments



The Raptors Foundation exists to help kids and they mean all kids showing it again with a substantial donation to the Halton-Peel Cruisers Wheelchair Basketball Team. Thank you Raptors and congratulations to the Cruisers for taking the initiative!



Air & Foam in a Nut Shell

VARILITE® Air-Foam Floatation Technology in a nutshell combines the best characteristics of air and foam! Our most popular cushion product is the **Evolution™**.

AIR: Fluid, displacing under load providing pressure relief.

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Air-Foam Floatation – The Key is immersion. The valve releases air to immerse the user in the foam. Each cell of the open-cell foam provides support and distributes the pressure. Increased immersion provides increased load distribution and greater stability. Optimal pressure distribution is achieved over the largest possible area. The combination of soft foam under the pelvis and firmer foam under the thighs creates continually adjusting forces that evens out the interface pressures.

ISS Success

The International Seating Symposium held March 11-14 in Orlando, Florida was a success from the exhibitor's perspective even though they all wanted more exhibit hall time. The University of Pittsburg coordinates much of the activity and their web site is:

www.iss.pitt.edu

EUROPEAN SEATING SYMPOSIUM

The next European Seating Symposium will be hosted September 14- 17, 2009 and information on this event can be found here:

www.seating.ie

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KENDA Carrying Black

Kenda did a great job of producing some of the first colored **non-marking** tires on the market and Schwalbe brought black **non-marking** to the scene. Kenda introduced three manual chair tires in non-marking black now in stock and available. The K192 is in 24" (540) and 26" (590), the K184 is in 24" (540) and 25" (559), and the K196 is in 24" (540), 25" (559), and 26" (590).



K192 Black



K184 Black



K196 Black

Canadian Sponsorships

We are gearing up for involvement in CWBL Conference Finals in March in Montreal, CWBL Finals in Halifax, the National Championships in Montreal, and the Événement AQSFR in June. When we combine these events with trade shows in Oakville, Thunder bay, and Toronto; we are looking forward to some great opportunities to meet and greet!

Tsunami - June 2009

Doug Munsey, President of Ki Mobility complimented co-worker Murray Slagerman recently for his above and beyond engineering work to get the Tsunami, an incredibly light, multi-adjustable rigid frame wheelchair to market that comes in with a transport weight (without the rear wheels) of 10.9 lbs. in titanium and 11.2 lbs. in heat treated after welding aluminum.

Ki Mobility is committed to improving people's mobility through the design and manufacture of innovative mobility products. For more information on the Tsunami line of chairs, visit our on-line information at: www.4RGK.com or the US site at: www.kimobility.com More to come!



Bits and Bytes

- NWBT Denver March 18-22;
- Medtrade Spring Las Vegas March 25-26;
- CWBL Finals in Halifax April 10-12;
- MEDiChair Halton Product and Education Conference April 22-23 in Oakville;
- Superior Seating and Mobility in Thunder bay April 23-24;
- Canadian Seating & Mobility Conference May 12-14 in Toronto;
- Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Championships May 22-24, Montreal.

BESPOKE PLUS helps to market and promote **RGK Wheelchairs**, **VARILITE®** Seating and Positioning Systems, **KENDA**, and **Ki Mobility** products, along with Spinergy, Glance, Rogue, Frog Legs, Schwalbe, KIK, Sun, MBL and other great products.

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