



OSOT Events



As previously noted, we have committed to three sessions on seating and mobility with **Sheila Buck** and the **Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists (OSOT)**. These are labelled "Understanding, Evaluating, and Justifying Your Prescription of Seating and Mobility Systems" and the first one is June 4th at the Holiday Inn 1696 Regent Street Sudbury, ON P3E 3Z8.

We are partnering with OSOT on these initiatives to compliment our respective interest in ensuring that the sessions are educational, are free from being an infomercial on any one product line, and open to all products in the marketplace.

The first of three events are supported by the following exhibitors in no particular order as of May 31st: **Theracare Marketing Network, HPU Rehab, Westech Health Care, Advanced Health Care Products, Blake Medical, Shopper's Home Health Care, Silver Cross Sudbury, Parsons ADL, Power Plus Mobility, Motion Specialties Sudbury, and of course 49 Bespoke**. These events are open to all manufacturers, distributors, and dealers on a first come first served basis.

We will engage participants to: review current theories on seating and mobility, help understand the need for a M.A.T. assessment, review seating simulation, look at three point positioning and line of force, consider pressure management and postural control elements of seating, review client centre of mass and wheelchair centre of gravity set up, review the physics of propulsion techniques and to learn how to utilize assessment data for product parameter determination. It will be an engaging and informative workshop!

Sheila Buck is the owner of Therapy NOW! Inc., which is an

occupational therapy (OT) company providing private consultation and education on seating and mobility assessments and prescription.

After our workshop in Sudbury on **June 04th**, we have one in Ottawa on **June 11th** (24 participants and 9 exhibitors registered to date) and the third one in the series in Kitchener on **October 29th**. For further information contact Seema Sindwani at ssindwani@osot.on.ca and stay tuned for more information on how to register for the Kitchener event!

OWSA June 15th



It gives us great pleasure to be involved in a CWSA event supporting

provincial development with the Ontario Wheelchair Sports Association (OWSA). 25 plus business leaders will spend a day in a chair culminating in an opportunity to play wheelchair basketball. The event is the brainchild of **Laura Wilson**, Executive Director of OWSA with the aim of "building awareness of the challenges of chair mobility and provide a small glimpse into the lives and achievements of Ontario's 2015 Parapan Am athletes as we count down to the Games."

The business leaders involved are supporting wheelchair sport programs across the province of Ontario. She has solicited the assistance **The Honourable David C. Onley** Former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, **The Honourable Vim Kochhar** Former Senator and Chair of the Canadian Foundation for Persons with Physical Disabilities, **Tracey Ferguson** Three-time Paralympic Gold Medalist, Wheelchair Basketball, and the writer to assist with the event. For more info, contact Laura Wilson at **104-3 Concorde Gate Toronto Ontario M3C 3N7 | 416-426-7131 | info@ontwheelchairsports.org**

CWSA Rugby



The 2015 Coloplast Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Championships were held in Saskatoon, SK May 29-31, 2015. The event was organized by Saskatchewan Wheelchair Sports Association (SWSA) and sanctioned by the Canadian Wheelchair Sports Association (CWSA).

It was a double BC win this year with Team BC defeating Ontario Thunder (defending champions for the last four years) in Division 1 and BC B toppling Alberta Long Horns in Division 2.

In addition to our annual **Judy Zelman Award**, we provided a couple hundred tubes and tires from **KENDA**.

The tires were **Kontester's** developed specifically for Wheelchair Rugby. They are high pressure with dual rubber compounds providing superior grip and a durable long life. They have a thicker side wall with motorcycle construction (fabric) for puncture protection on both the front and sidewall to accommodate high impact.



Tires SR and NR

In the 1980's it became known that 73% of the spina bifida population had negative reactions to latex, milky fluid found in plants - the latex in the rubber trees is the source of natural rubber (NR). This may have occurred because of their exposure to many medical products such as IV tubing, surgical gloves, bandages, respirators, stethoscope tubing, and other products containing latex. Some examples of non-medical products that may contain latex are balloons, chewing gum, rubber bands, toys, some wheelchair cushions, some tires, disposable diapers, pacifiers, plants, bath mats, etc.

We get calls on a regular basis to ensure that the tires we have are latex free. In the production of wheelchair tires and bike tires for the most part, the use of synthetic rubber (SR) is widely used. Although most compounds require some NR to be effective, we understand that there is no risk for anyone to get a latex reaction from the wheelchair tires we carry. KENDA and Schwalbe have relayed that they have taken into account the possible

latex allergy situation when they develop their wheelchair tire line and that end users should be worry-free when using their products.

BLAX Push Rims

Blax was acquired by Islands, LLC recently and there has been material change to the Knurled and Double Stuff (Big Stix) push rims. We have stock of these two products as well as the new AGX and AGX-L. For more info on these extreme friction push rims visit www.pushblax.com.

BBraver

BBraver Inc. push rims introduced in February will also be at the upcoming OSOT Sessions. We have stock of this new hand rim for 24" (540) and 25" (559) wheels which has an exclusive ergonomic profile providing more push force and comfort. For more info visit www.bbraver.com.

Spinergy ZX 1

Another product we will have at the Sudbury and Ottawa OSOT sessions is from Spinergy. Their power add-on to a manual wheelchair offers lifestyle enhancing mobility! See it for a rigid or folding chairs here: www.spinergy.com

Bits and Bytes

- 49 OSOT – Sheila Buck June 4 Sudbury, ON;
- 49 OSOT – Sheila Buck June 11 Ottawa, ON;
- 49 Abilities Expo Chicago June 12-14;
- 49 Rehab Equipment Expo September 9, Richmond BC;
- 49 Atlantic Rehab & Ed Conference Sept 23-25 Halifax, NS;
- 49 OSOT Conference Sept 25-26, Kingston, ON;
- 49 MC Saskatoon Regina Show Oct 20&22 SK;
- 49 OSOT – Sheila Buck October 29, Kitchener, ON.

BESPOKE PLUS markets/promotes **VARILITE®** Seating and Positioning Systems, **KENDA**, **RGK Wheelchairs**, and **Ki Mobility** products, along with Spinergy, Glance, Spintek, Frog Legs, X-Core, Shox, CEW, Schwalbe, Sun, Natural Fit, Blax, BBraver, MBL, and more. **Comments are welcome; contact the editor Reg McClellan in the manner you wish below.**