

Technical service team completes 1,386 repairs to athletes' equipment since opening workshop doors at the London 2012 Paralympic Games

Submitted by: Media Safari
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1,111 wheelchairs, 199 prosthetics and 76 orthotics repaired by Ottobock Healthcare to date

Ottobock Healthcare (<http://www.ottobock.co.uk>), Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service Provider to the 2012 Paralympic Games, has completed 1,386 repairs since opening its workshops on the 22nd August. Paralympians from 110 of the competing countries have visited one of the thirteen Ottobock workshops to have their equipment repaired by the technical service team. 1,111 wheelchair, 199 prosthetic and 76 orthotic jobs have been carried out by the team of experts to date, including repairs for sports such as powerlifting, wheelchair fencing and road cycling.

Working behind the scenes in a 6,500 ft² workshop in the Paralympic Village as well as workshops at the villages in Weymouth and Eton Dorney and next to the field of play at ten competition and training venues, Ottobock is supporting all 4,200 competing athletes with a team of 80 expert prosthetists, orthotists and wheelchair technicians. The team of technicians, who have all volunteered their services, come from 18 countries and speak 23 languages.

Athletes competing at the London 2012 Paralympic Games (<http://passion.ottobock.com/>) can all have their equipment checked and repaired by Ottobock experts before or during competition. Like the services provided by mechanics during a pit-stop in motor racing, members of Ottobock's technical service team are located next to the field of play and are responsible for the repair and maintenance of equipment used by Paralympians to get athletes back into the competition as fast as possible.

Ottobock has been a partner to the Paralympic Games providing technical service since the Seoul 1988 Paralympic Games (<http://passion.ottobock.com/en/history/>), and has completed approximately 10,000 repairs for athletes during Paralympic competition since then. Records for most repairs completed in a single Games were set at the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games where technicians worked more than 10,000 hours completing 2,188 repairs, including 183 in a single day.

"Today captured the essence of what our work in the technical workshop is all about," said Peter Franzel, Ottobock International Leadership Team Director. "From 7am we were busy repairing all manner of equipment to ensure athletes can all compete to their very best. With the athletes now starting to compete the pride in the workshop is evident. It is such an honour to be part of the London 2012 Paralympic Games and we look forward to using the wealth of experience to support athletes over the next nine days of play."

Technical service by the numbers:

Total repairs: 1,386

Number of repairs per type:

Orthotic: 76

Prosthetic: 199

Wheelchair : 1,111

Nationalities of athletes serviced: 110

Picture caption: (Further images available on request)

Ottobock Healthcare, Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service Provider to the 2012 Paralympic Games, has completed 1,386 repairs since opening its workshops on the 22nd August. 1111 wheelchairs, 199 prosthetics and 76 orthotics jobs have been carried out by the team of experts to date including repairs for sports such as powerlifting, wheelchair fencing, rowing and road cycling.

About Ottobock Healthcare (<http://paralympic-press.ottobock.com/en/home/>)

Ottobock is a world leading supplier of high quality, innovative and practical solutions that restore human mobility and help people to rediscover personal independence. Ottobock Healthcare is part of the Ottobock global group of companies established in the UK in 1976. Its wide product range includes high quality prosthetic and orthotic components, wheelchairs, rehabilitation and mobility products available through the country's leading clinics and dealers. With a highly motivated and skilled team of professionals offering expert advice, product sales, service and support, Ottobock solutions enhance the physical comfort, confidence and mobility of the individual. Ottobock aims to achieve the best possible outcome for its customers, combining the latest technology with cutting-edge products and services.

Ottobock is also the Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service Provider of the 2012 Paralympic Games. It has been supporting people with disabilities to participate in sports and recreation for more than three decades, and has been a Partner of the Paralympic Games since 1988. Ottobock has been an official 'Worldwide Partner of the Paralympic Movement' since 2005. www.ottobock.co.uk (<http://www.ottobock.co.uk>)

For further press information and images, or to book a behind the scenes tour of the Ottobock workshop in the Paralympic Village please contact:

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