

## Ottobock technical service team completes 277 equipment repairs for 204 athletes on day three of the London 2012 Paralympic Games

Submitted by: Media Safari  
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Repairs included replacing a cracked carbon fibre running blade

Ottobock Healthcare (<http://www.ottobock.co.uk/>), Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service Provider to the 2012 Paralympic Games, completed 277 repairs on day three of competition, including the replacement of a cracked carbon fibre running blade

(<http://paralympic-press.ottobock.com/en/home/equipment/equipment-used-in-paralympic-sport/sports-prostheses-and-running>). Working behind the scenes in a 6,500 ft<sup>2</sup> workshop in the Paralympic Village and nine other workshops next to the field of play at nine competition venues, 80 Ottobock technicians were responsible for repairs during competition.

Paralympians from 115 of the competing countries have visited one of the Ottobock workshops since it opened on 22nd August. On day three of competition alone, 220 wheelchairs, 37 prostheses and 20 orthoses repairs were made by the technical service team. Athletes competing in wheelchair tennis, athletics and archery required the most support throughout the day.

“It’s always a pleasure to see someone come through the door unable to compete and to leave, with the problem solved to continue uninterrupted with their training and competition programme,” said Ken Hurst, Technical Director, Ottobock International Leadership Team at the 2012 Paralympic Games. “Today we were able to do this for 204 athletes, including a Paralympic sprinter who had a crack in his running blade. This job was particularly rewarding for the French technician assigned to the job as he knew the athlete.”

Ottobock is supporting all 4,200 competing athletes with a team of 80 expert prosthetists, orthotists and wheelchair technicians (<http://paralympic-press.ottobock.com/en/home/>), including 12 welders. The team of technicians come from 18 countries and speak more than 20 languages. 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 damaged during competition.

Ottobock has been a partner to the Paralympic Games (<http://passion.ottobock.com/>) providing technical service since the Seoul 1988 Paralympic Games, and has completed approximately 10,000 repairs for athletes during Paralympic competition since then. The record 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.

Technical service by the numbers:

Day Three: 227, Total to date: 1,663

Number of repairs per type:

Orthotic: Day Three: 20, Total to date: 96  
Prosthetic: Day Three: 37, Total to date: 236  
Wheelchair: Day Three: 220, Total to date: 1,331  
Number of athletes serviced: Day Three: 204, Total to date: 1,233  
Number countries serviced: Total to date: 115

Picture caption: (Further images available on request) Ottobock Healthcare, Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service Provider to the 2012 Paralympic Games, completed 277 repairs on day three of competition, including the replacement of a cracked running blade.

#### About Ottobock Healthcare

(<http://paralympic-press.ottobock.com/en/home/press-releases/press-releases/latest-press-releases/>)

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)  
(<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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