

Ottobock technicians on the move to support London 2012 Paralympic marathon on last day of competition

Submitted by: Media Safari

Monday, 10 September 2012

Traditionally working from within a 6,500 ft² workshop in the Paralympic Village and nine other workshops at competition venues, Ottobock (http://www.ottobock.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/ob_uk_en/hs.xsl/2580.html) has completed 2,740 repairs to date, since opening its doors on 22nd August. Today, the Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service team (<http://paralympic-press.ottobock.com/en/home/technical-service/technical-service/>) took to the streets of London in a fully customised mobile workshop and provided repairs to damaged wheelchairs (<http://paralympic-press.ottobock.com/en/home/equipment/equipment-used-in-paralympic-sport/>) as athletes took part in the marathon.

“The Ottobock mobile workshop has ensured that no matter where service is required at the London 2012 Paralympic Games we can provide fast and effective repairs,” said Donna Fisher, Prosthetist for Ottobock Healthcare. “Nowhere is this more important than during the marathon. We were on hand to provide immediate repairs and given the distances covered, the only way to do that was with a mobile unit. Throughout competition we have been providing service to athletes for anything from punctured tyres to completely re-building a running blade. As technical service provider, our interest lies entirely on ensuring athletes leave our workshop more comfortable that they arrived and we love to see people walking out the door, having improved their quality of life.”

Ottobock Healthcare is supporting all 4,200 competing athletes with a team of 80 expert prosthetists, orthotists and wheelchair technicians, including 12 welders, who have all volunteered their services. The team of technicians come from 18 countries and speak 14 languages. On day 10 alone, 188 repairs were carried out for 120 athletes, including 11 orthotic, 37 prosthetic and 140 wheelchair repairs.

In addition to the technical service on the road, Ottobock’s technicians in the workshop spent the last day of competition attaching flag holders to athletes who will be carrying the flags for their countries in the closing ceremony. Work will carry on in the workshop until the 12th September, to ensure every athlete leaves the London 2012 Paralympic Games satisfied with their equipment. The team of technicians will have completed over 10,684 hours of work when the athletes’ village closes its doors.

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.

Technical service by the numbers:

Total repairs: Day 10; 188. Total to date; 2,740

Number of repairs per type:

Orthotic: Day 10; 11. Total to date; 179

Prosthetic: Day 10; 37. Total to date; 396

Wheelchair: Day 10; 140. Total to date; 2,353

Number of athletes serviced: Day 10; 120. Total to date; 1,983

Number of countries serviced : 125

Picture caption: (Further images available on request)

Today, the Official Prosthetic, Orthotic and Wheelchair Technical Service team took to the streets of London in a fully customised mobile workshop and provided repairs to damaged wheelchairs as athletes took part in the marathon.

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

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 (<http://passion.ottobock.com/>). 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

For further press information and images please contact:

Charlotte Rowland / Jon Wilcox

Media Safari

T: +44 (0)1225 471202

E: Ottobock@mediasafari.co.uk

Anna Parisi

Manager – PR and Partnerships

London 2012 Paralympic Games

Ottobock Healthcare

T: +44 (0)7584 162563

E: anna.parsi@ottobock.com