



BESPOKEPLUS



"If your work speaks for itself don't interrupt"

Cyathlon 2024



CYBATHLON, a non-profit project of ETH Zurich, acts as a platform that challenges teams from all over the world to develop assistive technologies suitable for everyday use with and for people with disabilities. The driving force behind CYBATHLON is international competitions and events, in which teams consisting of technology developers from universities, companies, or NGOs and a person with a disability tackle various everyday tasks with their latest assistive technologies. The participants with physical disabilities show how to tie shoelaces with a robotic arm prosthesis, balance on rocks with a prosthetic leg or overcome uneven terrain with an exoskeleton. On the road to 2024, two more disciplines were added to the original six: a race with smart visual assistance technologies for people with severe visual impairment and a race with assistance robots for people with severe impairment of the upper and lower extremities.

Jaimie Borisoff, BCIT Make+ and his crew competed in this year's event that took place October 25-27, 2024, and won Gold in the WHL Division. Check it all out [Cyathlon 2024](#).

Holiday Schedule

Yes, we are talking the holiday season already. We will be closed at end of day December 20th through until January 06th this year. Naturally, if there are any emergencies we will be reachable and will deal with issues as required.

The annual open house party will be on December 13th, and it will be an all-day event starting at noon. We hope to see many customers, suppliers, and other friends throughout the day to enjoy the holiday season!

Parsons ADL Next Decade



Congratulations to Peter Shmagola who has decided to smell the roses and let someone else carry the torch for the biggest catalogue of this industry product still printed. He has sold the business to KEGO Corporation who has a shared vision to

provide high quality products, outstanding service, and continue to uphold the standards customers have learned to expect.

After four plus decades of product development and distribution, www.parsonsadl.com will work to make a smooth and seamless transition to the next decade under new leadership. Based on his philanthropic interests and commitment to community, don't be surprised if this transaction opens the door to Peter putting in many more hours with not for profits and building community in Tottenham! Peter has thanked everyone for their support and contribution to the success of Parsons ADL.

Rehasense Canada



Rehasense Canada is taking the next step in their growth

and development. Adithya Roa, Commercial Manager has forwarded a letter to the dealer network in Canada marking a change in the distribution of their product line starting in January 2025. Rehasense Canada joins their other 14 offices with global wholesale distribution of their complete product line which includes every wheelchair category, rollators, power addon equipment, accessories, and a host of other products.

We look forward to continuing our work with Rehasense Canada in the new Year.

SCI Peer Connections

The Canadian Paraplegic Association was born in 1945 and has evolved into a national network of SCI organizations providing a range of services www.sci-can.ca. The provincial web sites are listed on their site along with affiliate or differently constituted provincial bodies with similar or the same mandates.

In the November edition of Ontario's SCI Peer Connections there are online events promoted. These events are organized on Teams, Zoom, or held in person at various locations. They range from talking about favorite pieces of equipment, sport and active living, living with SCI, care services, all under the banner of "Peer to Peer, Strength to Strength". www.sciontario.org. SCI BC announced an online auction from November 18-December 2 with proceeds going to peer support. Lots of gift certificates and memorabilia www.sci-bc.ca. Regardless of where you are in Canada, if you need to know anything about spinal cord injury you have an organization and people with learned experiences prepared to help!

Batec Air



We have provided information on the new Batec Air product, its innovation and drivability. As a new high demand product there is a lot of work that has

to be done to meet regulatory requirements, Batec's own testing protocols, and getting product out to all markets for funder approvals, etc. All this means that we will not see these units leave the factory until February and arrive here in North America in April 2025. Both the Mini 2 and the Batec Air are travel friendly and fit nicely in the overhead of most commercial planes. There are some differences in their pedigree but apart from compact and versatile here are the main points to review. **The Batec Air wheel diameter is 10 " and its speed settings are 6 km/h, 10 km/h, and 15 km/h weighing in at 11 kg (without battery). The maximum user weight is 110 kg and has a cylindrical battery with 216 Wh giving it an autonomy of 23 km calculated with a 75 kg user, ultralight wheelchair, flat terrain, no wind.** The Mini 2 has a wheel diameter of 12 " and its speed settings are 6 km/h, 15 km/h, 20 km/h weighing in at 13.9 kg (without battery). The maximum user weight is 110 kg and has the standard Batec battery style with 280 Wh or 576 Wh giving it an autonomy of 21.5 km (With 280

Wh battery) or 44 km (With 576Wh battery) calculated under the user's 75 kg conditions, ultralight wheelchair, flat terrain, no wind and constant speed of 15 km/h. May vary by +/- 20% depending on the battery.

Invacare Sold

After a few tumultuous years of regulatory and technology issues, chapter 11, and emerging all good to go with a new business plan, Invacare's North American business has been acquired by MIGA Holdings LLC. The news release suggests they have a proven track record in manufacturing and sales to amplify and accelerate Invacare Corporations strategic growth plans.

The news release out of ELYRIA, OH and EDISON, NJ – November 11, 2024, reads, *"the acquisition positions Invacare to optimize its operations and accelerate growth in North America. This move enhances Invacare's ability to better satisfy its customer needs and further expand as a market leader in the healthcare mobility space. MIGA Holdings is owned by the same owners as C+A Global, a leading worldwide manufacturer and online retailer of consumer products, as well as global brands Saris and ZINK. The company has a proven track record of purchasing, redeveloping, and transforming companies across categories through world-class manufacturing, sales and distribution"*. More information is available www.invacare.com.

Bits and Bytes

- 49 Motion Cares Hamilton, ON November 6, 2024;
- 49 Remembrance Day all over November 11, 2024;
- 49 Abilities Expo December 6-8, 2024 Dallas, TX;
- 49 REE Richmond BC March 04, 2025;
- 49 Abilities Expo March 7-9, 2025 Las Angeles, CA;
- 49 Abilities Expo May 2-4, 2025 New York, NY;
- 49 Abilities Expo June 20-22, 2025 Chicago, IL;
- 49 Abilities Expo August 1-3, 2025 Houston, TX;
- 49 Abilities Expo September 5-7, 2025 Phoenix, AZ;
- 49 CSMC September 9-10, 2025 Toronto, ON;
- 49 Rehacare Dusseldorf, DE September 17-20, 2025;
- 49 Abilities Expo December 6-8, 2024 Dallas, TX.

BESPOKE PLUS is the newsletter of 49 Bespoke Inc., which markets products from around the world designed to better meet the needs of people with a disability.

We have grown up in sport, have a social service background, and have adopted an advocacy role in our business practice. **Comments are welcome.**