



BESPOKE PLUS

"Enhancing Quality of Life!"

September 2007

CSMC Edition

Volume 5, Number 58

Who is RGK?

RGK Wheelchairs was founded in 1988 by three individuals who use RGK wheelchairs, Russel, Greg, and Keith ... hence the RGK. They later evolved into RGK Wheelchairs, Ltd., and created RGK Australia Pty Ltd. Now, RGK Italy, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, North Ireland, Israel, Kuwait, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, Spain, and Turkey have companies that market and promote the **BESPOKE** line of wheelchairs. The North America company was formed with Reg McClellan and is known as RGK Wheelchairs, Inc. We now distribute **VARILITE®**, **KiMobility**, **Kenda** and other products in Canada through the dealer network.

Welcome to the CSMC

RGK Wheelchairs, Inc. is proud to participate in the 22nd annual Canadian Seating and Mobility Conference (CSMC) held September 19th – 22nd, 2007 at the Congress Center in Toronto, ON. The CSMC learning objectives through the various sessions are to provide informative and thought provoking opportunities to gain current and developing information on service delivery, product development, research and education. It does and has provided opportunity for networking while viewing exhibits and interacting with dealer or manufacturer representatives. This year's program promises to offer an exciting and interesting variety of topics for everyone.

The theme is "Movin' On" will incorporate international speakers, issues, and ideas to complement the theme. The Keynote presenter Barry Long is well known to the seating and mobility world. He is a professional sports model, competitive athlete, professional speaker and marketing consultant. His address "From ICU to Bungee Cord, a Wheelchair's Journey" promises to educate, inform, and inspire.



e-Back™ Coming



Randy Willett, VP of Medical with Cascade Designs, (**VARILITE®**) recently announced that the **EVOLUTION™ Backs (Regular, Tall, and Deep)** have offspring coming!

The **e-Back™**, to debut at MedTrade and at CSMC, will be available in regular and tall forms and look similar to the **EVOLUTION™ Backs** with the same shell, cane clips, and mounting brackets. It will differ from its parents with the pin bars, cushion, cover, and price!



The idea is to provide many of the benefits of the **EVOLUTION™ Backs (Regular and Tall)** main features while making it easier to adjust with the end user in the chair and to make it even more affordable!

For Ontario residents, the **e-Back™** is submitted to ADP for consideration and we will update you in **Bespoke Plus** at our earliest convenience.

KiMobility in Canada



RGK Wheelchairs, Inc., distributes RGK Products, **VARILITE®** Seating Systems in Canada., **KENDA** Tires and Tubes, and now introduces **KiMobility** Products to the Canadian population.

"Ki," pronounced "key," is the Latin root word meaning "to set in motion." Ki Mobility is dedicated to developing innovative products that provide optimal performance for the end user.

They are set to design and build the lightest, cost effective, and most energy efficient folding wheelchair available on the market! Come by our four booth set up at 715 to meet Doug Munsey, demo the product, and pick up our literature!



Wheel Choices:

Light weight chairs require the strongest, lightest wheels on the market to complete the puzzle in creating the best unit to get from A to B!

Spinergy Wheels are made with PBO spokes - the ultimate daily use and sport wheel and we have the largest selection of Spinergy products in stock in Canada.

They come in L, LX, SL, and SLX with a recessed hub or X2 style in White, Yellow, Red, Blue, or Black spokes and in sizes 22, 24, 25, 26, and 700c. Now, they even offer a wire spoke!

AMERICAN KENDA

KENDA has been making high quality tires, tubes, and flat free products since 1962! Today, they are making products for scooters, power chairs, active living, sport, and daily use chairs to give comfortable rides, longer wear, and increased puncture resistance for indoor and outdoor use.



They purchased **American Airless** in 2005 and relocated that manufacturing facility from California to their biggest North American facility in Ohio. Visit www.kendausa.com and www.americanairless.com for product lines and more information.

KENDA was the first company to introduce non-marking color products to the North American market and is a proponent of increasing the tire pressure across the board where it will enhance product performance for end users.

ERGO Seating

RGK has been producing ERGO seating in their range of wheelchairs since the 90's. They supported the development of a body of work by Drs. Kees van Brueklen on this subject and he produced a paper in 2000 which is finally coming to the Canadian Seating and Mobility Conference (CSMC) September 19-21, 2007. Reg McClellan will present the paper in a PowerPoint presentation.

ERGO seating is about the development of the wheelchair seat rail to use the most positive properties of the flat seat and the wedge seat to



enhance the sitting posture, torso stability, pressure distribution, and wheelchair propulsion abilities for the end user.

This "all purpose" seat will be presented as a positive contribution for end users of wheelchair products and may also include comments on the many individual choices the end users face every time they look at getting into new products to assist them to get from A to B. We are pleased to see other manufacturers now offering ERGO seating and look forward to the day when all manufacturers will see the benefit for end users. For more information on CSMC, visit the web site at www.csmc.ca.



Wheels in the Marketplace

There are an incredible number of great high performance, ultra light, extremely durable, etc., wheels on the market. Here are web sites to check out in alphabetical order:

www.corima.com	www.rogue-wheels.com	www.x-corewheels.com
www.decon.se	www.spinergy.com	www.zipp.com
www.glancewheels.com	www.strykersorano.com *	
www.karma.com.tw	www.sunmetal.com	
www.Mbl.dk	www.vulcanwheels.com	
www.nthawk.com	www.velocitywheels.com	

* May be discontinued by Stryker

We are big fans of Spinergy as noted in the column to the left, but if you want a billet product and wish to make a fashion statement, check out Glance Wheels.

If you want a hand built product that looks to the bicycle industry for higher standards, Rogue Wheels is a new comer to the marketplace and driven by the ultimate in performance.

RGK Manufacture

BESPOKE

(custom made)

*Rigid wheelchairs
for daily use and
active living
customers.*

*Made to measure
products with
RGK's industry
leading ERGO
Seating ensures
the ultimate in
postural support
and performance!*



Natural-Fit™ Hand Rims

The Natural-Fit™ is one of the most extensively researched wheelchair hand rims. One study that tested the Natural-Fit™ was funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH) through their Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. And, more recently, a survey of Natural-Fit™ Hand rim users was conducted to examine self-reported outcomes of using the hand rim. Both of these studies are summarized on their web site, but the upshot is that when asked to compare propelling with the Natural-Fit™ to propelling with their prior hand rims, 85% reported less fatigue, 80% reported less pain in their wrists, 65% reported less pain in their shoulders, 93% said it was better than a standard rim!



Their web site has information on carpal tunnel syndrome and repetitive stress injuries and other wheelchair propulsion biomechanics. We look forward to showing their product at the upcoming www.csmc.ca conference September 19-21 in Toronto. Check them out at www.3rivers.com and also see the Smart Wheel™ and Game Cycle™.

Schwalbe Tires

RGK Wheelchairs, Ltd., introduced Schwalbe tires some weeks ago for daily use 24" and 25" wheels. These are now available in North America and we also stock 26" in both the Marathon Plus and Marathon Plus Evolution.



They are available in grey and black non-marking and are the first black tires that do not leave skid-marks on indoor floors. This is made possible by the revolutionary Black'n'Roll compound, developed in SCHWALBE's labs. Flat-less with SmartGuard! Hand friendly with 2grip! Check out their North American web site at: www.schwalbetires.com.

Meeting Us

RGK Wheelchairs, Inc., was born out of a relationship with Reg McClellan and the two principals of RGK Wheelchairs in the United Kingdom, Russel Simms and Greg Eden. Founded in 2002, it was the culmination of an effective introduction of RGK Products to North America by FWSI, a private corporation owned by Reg McClellan.




"We want to provide stronger, lighter, and more cost effective products in the North American market and that is why we have added **VARILITE®**, **KENDA**, and **KiMobility** products to our line of ultra-light wheelchairs," explained Reg McClellan, President/CEO, "and my better half, Chantal Benoit, and me wish to provide the best possible service we can! We take this opportunity to thank all the companies that we work with and especially Alan Murphy, Diana Lim, Jean Marc Lefebvre, Pawel Lukaszek, Russel Simms, Greg Eden, Charles Li, Randy Willett, Sandy Dodge, Karyn Abraham, Doug Munsey, Murray Slagerman, Ryan Webb, Mike Fricker, Frank Agozzino, Jane Murphy, Melanie Lamb, Mable and Lloyd Haase.

Froglegsinc.com

Mark Chelgren, owner of Frog Legs, Inc., is in the process of redesigning their web presence from their new digs at: Frog Legs, Inc., 14470 Terminal Avenue, Ottumwa, IA 52501 info@froglegsinc.com T: 800-922-2129 or 641-682-0220 F: 641-682-0132.

Diana Lim, Graphic Designer with Limonade has been working hard to complete our new catalogue. Although we will not have it for CSMC, we will have it available in early October.

We take this opportunity to show you  JPEG images of the latest new product from **VARILITE®** and the range of cushions and backs that we stock in Ottawa. Look for our new catalogue on-line in early October.



RGK Wheelchairs, Inc.
4, 505 Industrial Ave.
Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z1
Canada

After Hours:
T: (613)841-1824
F: (613) 841-5151

E-mail:
Info@4RGK.com
Info@Varilite.ca

Web Site:
www.4RGK.com
www.Varilite.ca
www.Varilite.com
www.RGKLife.com

Bits and Bytes

- CSMC September 19-21 at the Congress Center, Toronto, ON.;
- Parkwood Hospital, an evening with Clayton Gerein September 24, London, ON.;
- OSOT Conference September 28-29 in North Bay;
- MedTrade October 02-04 in Orlando, FL;
- RAMQ meeting October 10th, Montreal, QC;
- SCI Model Centers PT/OT Leadership Forum October 10-13, Vancouver, BC;
- Interurban Spinal Cord Conference October 25-26, Hamilton, ON.

BESPOKE PLUS helps to market and promote RGK Wheelchairs, **VARILITE**® Seating and Positioning Systems, **KENDA** Tires, **KiMobility** and other products; back issues on www.4RGK.com.

If you have something that you think we should be expounding on, please contact the editor, Reg McClellan.