



Welcome to our August newsletter issue coming to you from Orthotic and Prosthetic Technologies, Inc.

We look forward to providing you once a month with new and different technologies in Prosthetics, and to introduce you to many of our clients, Staff, and Practitioners.

Orthotic & Prosthetic Technologies, Inc. (OPT) was started in 2004 by Aaron Foreman MSPT, CPO. Aaron, and his fellow Practitioners and staff, focus on providing top quality personable service to each patient utilizing the latest state of the art technology available. We hope you will think of us as we will take excellent care of your patients.

We welcome your comments or questions. Please feel free to contact us via website, phone or email.



Coming in September 2007 OPT Newsletter:

Feature article of OPT client:

Krissy Bocking! She is currently training to become a pro Boxer—she is also an avid horse woman.

Coming Events:

August 11th Amputee Putt Putt Activity at Putt n' Fun in Round Rock. 6:30 p.m.

August 23rd Amputee Support Group meeting @ RR Hospital on 620 at 7:00 p.m.

September 15—Game Night Party For Amputee Support Group.

www.rramputee.com

Call Frieda @ 512-791-8864 or email at : friedaborth@optaustin.com for more details.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Dave Erskine



**Dave is one of Austin's finest.
He serves our City of Austin as a
Senior APD Officer!**

Last January, walking, even standing as he had known, came to an abrupt halt. That's when the motorcycle officer, Dave Erskine, riding a spare bike, tried to catch up to a speeder in northeast Austin. While passing a car, a truck unexpectedly pulled around the corner, forcing him to hit the breaks. The truck struck the rear side of the motorcycle. Erskine's right foot got pinned under the truck tire fracturing the bones in his lower right leg, among other injuries.

Erskine spent the next six weeks in the hospital, where his right leg, six inches above the ankle, had to be amputated.

Now armed with a prosthetic leg, and the same sense of humor he's carried with him the entire time, Erskine has made his return to the Austin Police Department, working limited duty as an instructor at the Police Academy.

But that's not his final goal.

"Ultimately, I would love to get back on bikes, but I may have to do patrol," he said.

Dave was honored with A Star of Texas award, created by the Texas Legislature, given to those injured or killed in the line of duty.

Dave says "The Proprio foot makes overall walking, standing, and, generally, all ambulating easier. I have a more even gait and virtually no stumbling over different terrain.

I would like to encourage people in my situation not to give up, and keep an uplifted spirit. As long as you believe —you will achieve most if not all of your goals."



PROPRIO FOOT

OPT takes pride in maintaining excellence in providing the best prosthetic care for each individual.

Our Practitioners, Aaron and Kevin, always strive for the best fit possible. We want our clients to have comfortable sockets. Aaron and Kevin listen to their clients, and make sure they are fitted with the componentry best suited for their lifestyle. Aaron is also a licensed Physical Therapist. Aaron and Kevin are both certified to fit clients with the Proprio Foot.

Our office staff, Louisa (also an amputee peer visitor) and Susie, will answer any questions you have—we welcome your calls. We know you will find them professional and informative.

Kevin, our technician does beautiful work—which you will see on every device we fabricate.

Frieda is an amputee peer visitor, patient advocate and oversees public relation. Your clients and patients will enjoy meeting her.



Dave enjoying his new socket and Proprio foot.

The New Ossur Proprio Foot

The world's first intelligent foot module, the PROPRIO FOOT provides unprecedented physiological benefits for transtibial amputees. A wide and automated range of ankle flexion with proven Flex-Foot dynamics means function is as close as you can get today to the human foot.

The PROPRIO FOOT thinks for itself, responding beautifully to changing terrain and transforming the approach to stairs and slopes, as well as level-ground walking. Angling itself appropriately, it also helps amputees to sit and stand up easily and more naturally. The PROPRIO FOOT™ also has a calibrated alignment control feature. Overall, the effect is a feeling of improved proprioception with a more balanced, symmetric and confident gait with reduced wear and tear on the back, hips and knees. Performance benefits:

- Cutting edge sensor technology and artificial intelligence identifies **sloping gradients** and the **ascent or descent of stairs** after the first step, and instructs the ankle to flex appropriately. Users can place the foot fully on a step when climbing or descending stairs and it will automatically adapt its ankle position to enable the next step.
- This active ankle motion also allows users to tuck both feet back behind their knees when **getting up from a chair** or sitting down. It also points the 'toe' down for a more natural appearance once seated. When walking, it automatically gives the 'toe' a lift at the exact moment in swing phase that will allow **sufficient ground clearance**.



This anatomically correct response creates a more **symmetrical and balanced gait**, reducing the need both to "hip hike" when walking or compromise stability by rolling over the edge of a step when going down stairs. Nor is there any need to load the entire body weight on the sound limb when getting out of a chair.

Despite its sophisticated technology, the PROPRIO FOOT has an extremely **user-friendly design** and is easy to set up and operate. During a simple calibration process involving 15 steps the device evaluates and memorizes an individual's unique gait pattern. It also has a calibrated alignment control feature.