



INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS  
AND ORTHOTICS

*...moving beyond physical disability*



Learn  
Exchange  
Support

[www.ispoint.org](http://www.ispoint.org)

# Building a worldwide community of Prosthetics and Orthotics professionals for the benefit of their patients

ISPO is a global multidisciplinary organization aiming to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices. Its members are prosthetists and orthotists, prosthetic and orthotic (P&O) technicians, orthopedic surgeons, rehabilitation doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, orthopedic shoemakers, nurses and biomechanical/rehabilitation engineers.

For 40 years, ISPO – primarily through its national member societies (NMS) – has provided an effective platform for the exchange and communication on all aspects of the science and practice associated with the provision of prosthetic and orthotic care, rehabilitation engineering and related areas. The Society now gathers about 3,000 members in over 90 countries.



## Inclusion, Participation and Empowerment

ISPO and its members contribute to a world where all persons have equal opportunity for full participation in society.

From supporting or organizing high level conferences to publishing latest scientific and clinical research, promoting standards of training and care or undertaking capacity building programs, ISPO aspires to offer to all people around the globe the level of care they deserve to improve their quality of life.

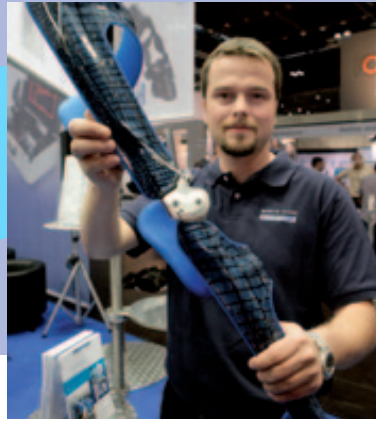
In addition, ISPO specifically supports resource poor parts of the world by empowering Prosthetics and Orthotics professionals as well as local rehabilitation workers via community based rehabilitation (CBR) strategies. Activities include: training to local Prosthetics and Orthotics and rehabilitation personnel, support to persons with disabilities and the wider community regarding treatment, preparation for the fitting and use of Prosthetics and Orthotics devices, reintegration into society.

ISPO is a non profit organization

- in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
- in special collaborative status with USAID
- in official relations with the World Health Organisation
- in special collaborative status with many international NGOs including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)



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## Ensuring quality care and education of professionals for the benefit of patients

### Working towards harmonization of Prosthetics and Orthotics training worldwide

Through international collaboration and consensus building, ISPO develops and promotes **education and training curricula** for prosthetists and orthotists (ISPO Category I professionals), as well as orthopaedic technologists (ISPO Category II professionals). Curricula for other training levels may be developed for professionals working in developing countries.

ISPO also provides **recognition** for Category I and II levels to educational programs and associated professional pathways offered by schools and training institutions around the world.

ISPO further compiles and reviews practice **standards** for Prosthetics and Orthotics professionals through education symposia, curriculum updating, material and product evaluation and classification.

## Fostering exchange, high-quality knowledge and networking

Through its national member societies, ISPO gathers global leaders and experts from all related disciplines representing the most advanced and interdisciplinary **knowledge** in Prosthetics and Orthotics science and practice. In an effort to make this valuable knowledge and **experience** available to the Prosthetics and Orthotics community at large, ISPO regularly organizes world congresses and other educational activities in all parts of the world.

In addition, ISPO initiates consensus conferences, short courses, workshops and consultative meetings to:

- foster debate, **exchange of information and cooperation**
- advance **research** and evidence based practice
- facilitate innovative and appropriate technology **development**

ISPO further disseminates knowledge through **publications**.

# Join us

Join one of our ISPO national member societies (NMS) or ISPO (for countries without a NMS) and:

- take advantage of immediate access to the **worldwide** ISPO community network
- enjoy exposure to **highest level expertise** and keep abreast of latest **developments** in the field
- contribute to **helping** those in need by supporting ISPO's various training activities in **developing countries**
- benefit from or promote **quality training** thanks to tailored courses, workshops and conferences
- contribute to advancing **research, clinical practice and technical development** by participating in debates and congresses organized around the globe

## Membership benefits

In addition to benefits provided by your national member society:

- **Benefit from a free subscription** to *Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI)*, one of the leading international scientific publications in the field of prosthetics and orthotics
- **Get reduced registration fees** at ISPO events: ISPO world congress, national congresses, workshops, seminars and other professional activities
- Receive ISPO's monthly **eUpdates** and quarterly **newsletter**
- Gain access to ISPO exclusive **online services**
- Make use of **voting rights** and eligibility to serve on ISPO committees and taskforces

## How to apply for membership?

**Please contact your national member society** or download the application form from the ISPO website: [www.ispoint.org](http://www.ispoint.org) and return it to the ISPO International Office



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