

Introducing the New BiOM Foot!



When the United States began sending troops to fight wars in Iraq and Afghanistan a decade ago, the government also began investing funds into promising technologies that could be developed to help amputees, or people with impaired limbs, move normally.

Dr. Hugh Herr, director of biomechanics at MIT, was one recipient of military funding. Dr. Herr was developing a leg system that imitates the combined functions of the foot, ankle and calf. The military-funding investment in this promising technology helped develop the PowerFoot BiOM by iWalk.

In an effort to help perfect the technology, two soldiers at HOP have put the BiOM PowerFoot through rigorous testing as part as part of the limited release program. Matt H., one of the soldiers who is wearing the BiOM PowerFoot, says the BiOM makes walking easier and far more comfortable. He is much less fatigued after walking while wearing the BiOM than with his other high-end prosthetic feet.



While wearing the BiOM, patients say they experienced much less pressure on their legs, making it possible to walk greater distances in far more comfort. Energy expenditure is decreased by up to 30% - the same as an able bodied walker. The PowerFoot BiOM replicates the normal function of the human leg, thus restoring natural movement in the lower leg of an amputee almost 100%.

The goal of iWalk is not only to match the functions of human limbs. With the help of a military that wants its wounded veterans to receive the most effective treatment possible, soldiers willing to test its products, and help from clinics like HOP, iWalk plans to eventually "augment physiological function through electromechanical replacement," or make it possible for amputees to possibly function beyond their previous capabilities.

The staff at HOP is thrilled to be a part of the development of a product that will not only help, but also enhance the lives of amputees. The BiOM was made available to the public this past summer.



THIS ISSUE:

**CUTTING EDGE TECH:
IWALK BIOM FOOT**

INSURANCE REMINDERS

WELCOME LINZI!

**November's Movie
Ticket Winners:**

Richard W.

Kimberly H.

Jackie V.

Chelsea C.

Mary F.

Vicky J.

***Somewhere in this newsletter
there is a misspelled word.
The first 10 patients to find
and call us at 315-786-8973
will WIN a pair of movie tickets!***

***(Please Note: Contest winners
must wait 3 months before
being eligible to enter again.)***

**November's Misspelled Word:
"travelled"**

facebook

**WE ARE NOW ON
FACEBOOK!**

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**Log on today and
become a fan of
Howard Orthotics & Prosthetics
and get daily updates on what
is going on in our office!**



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It's a New Year: New Deductibles, PLUS Update Your Insurance Information ASAP!

Don't forget that with the New Year comes a new deductible. Also, if you have any updates to your insurance information, please let the HOP staff know about any changes as soon as possible. To make the process of updating information as seamless as possible, please remember to bring new insurance cards to your next appointment.

Updating your insurance information will make it possible for the staff at HOP to provide you with accurate answers to your questions about what your insurance will cover. If you have questions regarding your insurance coverage or need assistance understanding how your payments may change with the New Year, please contact our Billing Department at 315-786-8973 ext. 20.

Welcome Linzi!

Please help us welcome Linzi, our Orthotic Fitter.

From Clayton, NY, Linzi is our newest hometown staffer. She will be helping out with multiple tasks around the office.

If you see her, say hi and make her feel welcome!

