Welcome to the 12th issue of DARCO Europe E-Journal

Dear Reader,

We’re dedicated to sharing information and knowledge with the foot and ankle community through our E-Journal publication. With this 12th issue, we’re pleased to announce a new therapeutic shoe offering a broad based solution to protect at risk feet.

Good bye Summer. Hello Autumn!

What an inspiring time! “Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons” a quote from the late American journalist Jim Bishop. We concur and it reminds us that nothing stays the same! The new seasons not only represent change and movement but also clarity. This time of the year for DARCO means the calendar is packed with events all over Europe. In addition, this year it included our 8th Distributors Meeting where professionals from 10 countries within the EU joined us here in Bavaria. It was a valuable exchange and we were allowed to demonstrate firsthand how we are shifting the paradigm in therapeutic shoes. Featured here in the 12th issue is just one of our newest products; the AllRound Shoe. DARCO has capitalized on our new technology shifts as well as improved manufacturing processes and we feel this shoe provides greater all round protection for the feet. Read more about this new, clever product in our family of therapeutic solutions in this issue.

And please engage yourself to find out just how our colors are changing over here at DARCO Europe. We’d love to hear from you!

Yours sincerely,
Rainer Kalleitner
Director of International Sales DARCO (Europe) GmbH

DARCO is a founding member of:

Gesellschaft für Fuß- und Sprunggelenkchirurgie e.V.
Society for Foot and Ankle Surgery

www.gesellschaft-fuer-fusschirurgie.de

WOUND CARE CIRCLE

Get pressure ulcers under control

www.woundcare-circle.com

News & Notes

8th DARCO (Europe) Distributor Meeting

The Distributor Meeting was a wonderful event here in Raisting this year. We all enjoyed the opportunity for relationship building and to strengthen the DARCO brand in the multiple markets that are represented by our European partners. Face to face we could share the latest; from our restructuring to the expansion of our manufacturing. DARCO is evolving every day and we were excited to share all the new happenings going on here in Raisting. But more importantly, the meeting enabled us to demonstrate how the market demands have influenced our R&D developments. DARCO strives to remain “one step ahead” and by working directly with Dr.s and engaging in “Open Innovation” we’ve developed better protective footwear and are launching other creative solutions for the feet.

The AllRound Shoe, our Relief Dual Insert and our new TASO series of therapeutic socks were all staged at the meeting. Evidence shows a continual need for quality, inventive solutions to protect the feet and we intuitively remain as close as we can to the developing guide lines.

Please find the review of the 8th DARCO Distributor meeting at: www.darco-europe.com
**Featured Product**

**AllRound Shoe: Closed long term healing shoe**

From Post-OP to wound care, the “Allrounder” is a comprehensive healing shoe, a relief shoe and a rehabilitation shoe. All in one-design for comfort and ease of use.

- Lightweight and breathable upper
- Rigid, long-soled shank
- (Light gray sole) PU sole: highly stable (60 Shore° A)
- (Dark gray sole) PU sole: anti-slip and shock absorbing (50 Shore° A)

Sensitive feet need protection and require appropriate care. Patients with long term ailments such as Diabetic Foot Syndrom or Rheumatoid Arthritis have special needs and may face complications from swelling feet to foot deformities. The “Allrounder” is a healing shoe with the features that matter most.

**Indications:**
- postoperative care
- wound care

**Purpose:**
- sole allows for easier mobility without compromising stability
- sandwich sole construct combines firmness for stability and a cushion sole for softer landings
- shoe upper is a light-weight, breathable nylon fabric that repels water and soil
- multi layered closure for protection and a secure fit
- removable insoles plus ample space to accommodate individual needs

**Features:**
- stable and easily adjustable
- shock absorbet, anti-slip outer-sole
- spacious boot design for custom Insoles or bulky bandages (can accommodate diabetic foot insoles)
- soft breathable fabric with adjustable Velcro® closure
- long ridged internal plate promoting weight distribution
- extra wide opening – seamless comfort-zone
- low profile sole – no height compensation necessary
- can be worn on the right or the left

Closed toe boot made of breathable fabric – free of protruding seams with wide access for ease of handling.

The sole is ridged and stable yet cushioned and slip resistant through a unique sandwich technology.

Please find detailed information on our website www.darco-europe.com
Currently there are several classification systems known to specify a Diabetic Foot Ulcer (DFU). Some of them are very complex, some of them are too superficial, and some of them are simply not efficient.

Jeffcoate stated in 2003\(^5\) that “… there is no widely accepted method for classification or even describing foot ulcers. Non-specialists commonly refer to all ulcers as diabetic foot. Two international working parties are trying to define a system of describing individual ulcers to improve communication and develop a classification for audit and research. Without classification, selection of comparable populations for urgently needed multicenter trials will be impossible …”\(^5\). Such comments like “not widely accepted” or “not commonly used” appear all the way through the literature, even in the latest cited reference of 2012\(^24\).

In 2006 the Editors comment in Podiatry Today, Vol. 19 Issue 6 May\(^6\), asked “Can a Diabetic Foot Surgery Classification System Help Predict Complications?” Researchers concluded that a non-vascular surgical classification system — including variables such as neuropathy, open wound and acute infection — may help predict peri- and postoperative complications. “… Armstrong believes the non-vascular diabetic foot surgery classification system’s framework may predict risk for complications such as amputation and infection … just as it is best for one to be conversant in more than one language, it is best to be fluent in numerous classification systems …”\(^6\).

Generally speaking the Wagner and the UT seem to be the most commonly used (or at least known) classification systems, although or perhaps because they are already quite old.

Regardless which system is supposed to be the most accurate one, by the end of the day a classification system needs to have four advantages\(^9\):

- Provides a valuable means for organization
- Represents a common language for speaking with other medical professionals
- Can help with reimbursement issues
- Provides validation of chosen treatments

by Raphael Boehm, Vice President DARCO Europe

Literature:
Please download a review of the literature on our expertise site www.darco-europe.com/expertise.html
Events

October 2017

20th – 21st October | Cologne, Germany
4th ORTHOPÄDIE SCHUH TECHNIK

21st – 22nd October | Raisting, Germany
DARCO Hands-on Workshop "Tapes for Kinesiology Taping"
www.darco.de/workshop_termine.html

24th – 27th October | Berlin, Germany
DKOU German Congress of Orthopedic and Trauma Surgery
www.dkou.org

November 2017

9th – 11th November | Venice, Italy
Annual Meeting of A-DFS
www.a-dfs.org

13th – 15th November | Harrogate, Great Britain
Wounds UK Annual Conference
www.wounds-uk.com/events.php?eventid=113

16th – 18th November 2017 | Liverpool, Great Britain
2017 College of Podiatry Annual Conference
www.scpod.org/conference/2017-college-of-podiatry-annual-conference

December 2017

1st – 2nd December | Munich, Germany
GFFC 25. International Symposium für Fußchirurgie
www.gesellschaft-fuer-fusschirurgie.de

January 2018

21st – 23rd January | Paris, France
Journées Cicatrisations 2017
www.cicatrisations2018.org

29th January – 1st February | Dubai, UAE
Arab Health
www.arabhealthonline.com

Imprint

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