Welcome to the 14th issue of DARCO Europe E-Journal

Dear Reader,

Visit us at OTWorld, Leipzig, Germany!

It’s now only a few weeks away (May 15 – 18) and it brightens our daily business here at DARCO Europe. We’re proud to be a part of this world class event and this year even more so, because we’ll be launching some truly interesting new products.

The DARCO Relief Insert® Walker and the PegContour Insole. We value this opportunity to stage our latest innovations and to build new professional relationships. There is a distinctive symbiosis between the exhibitor and the audience at OTWorld. Professionals from the industry engage face to face with orthopaedic technicians, medical professionals and caregivers from a range of expertise in the field; gathering from all over the world with a common goal: to improve the health care quality and options for the patients we all service.

But it’s not only the “New” – We continue to make improvements to our core products as well. The Body Armor® Cast Shoe has been a popular and reliable DARCO product for many years and it’s just one example where new innovations provide a clear benefit to the patient. Read on, this clever solution is featured in this issue along with another quality expertise article.

We hope you enjoy the quick read and we look forward to seeing you at OTWorld in Leipzig, Germany.

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

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DARCO is a founding member of:

Gesellschaft für Fuß- und Sprunggelenkschirurgie 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
Body Armor® Cast Shoe:
Ultralight cast shoe – comfortable fit and protection of the cast

The ultimate cast protection in a new modern design. The Body Armor® Cast Shoe provides the ultimate cast protection in a new modern design that will appeal to all patients and practitioners. Soft, durable EVA is combined with a patent protected unique bungee closure system to seat and secure the cast in the shoe, while providing the comfort and security patients need.

Indications:
> a walking shoe worn over cast bandages

Features:
> convenience – cast protection
> easy entry and easily fitted to the cast
> ergonomically designed to facilitate a correct walking pattern
> slip-resistant, stable outersole
> extremely light weight EVA material
> can be worn on the right and left

Precise sizing for an improved fit:
> new ‘easy to use’ closure system (1)
> stronger bungee cable (2)
> easier ‘open heel’ entry (3)
> now available in 6 sizes (4)

New Sizing for the Cast Shoe:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>ORIGINAL VERSION</th>
<th>NEW VERSION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XS</td>
<td>24.0 cm</td>
<td>24.0 cm</td>
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<td>S</td>
<td>26.5 cm</td>
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Ultra-light shoe designed for cast bandages – Added comfort for the patient and optimal protection for the cast

Please find detailed information on our website www.darco-europe.com
When a TCC treatment is needed, protection of the cast and gait support is important.

Physicians seek to achieve the best results based upon indications and within the confines of available resources. Therefore, a natural or synthetic cast may be the best solution at hand.

Orthopaedic casts were first developed in the 1850s and their aesthetics haven’t changed much over the past 160 years. A cast can be used to brace, immobilize, protect as well as off-load at and around the foot and ankle, hence providing effective treatment for many indications. Fiberglass replaced plaster in the 1970s and waterproofing arrived in the ‘90s.

Walking on a cast without protection can lead to cast damage and other complications. Foreign bodies can find their way through the sole of the cast (pic 1 & 2), and the toes are exposed and unprotected. In the 1950s, rubber heels were invented and are still often used today (pic 3). The rubber walking heel prevents direct contact of the cast with the ground and is designed to make the gait more comfortable. But the height difference can lead to biomechanical stress and may interfere with a normal gait cycle. This can be avoided with a height compensation shoe (pic 4). The abnormal walking pattern often leads to lateral rotation affecting the ankle joint. This is especially true after several days as the cast loosens around the calf due to muscle atrophy. Self-Repair strategies are often seen, including “shoe-like” improvements (pic 5 & 6).

These improvements can easily be achieved with an off-the-shelf cast shoe, which not only provides protection, but can also allow the patient to experience a normal gait cycle as much as possible while wearing a cast.

by Raphael Boehm, Vice President DARCO Europe

References:
Pic 1: By courtesy of Dr. Rajesh Kesavan, Chennai, India
Pic 3: Rubber Heel https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/-Oh8TY6qKLzi/XX27Xp7wW/I/AAAAAAA55U/UnY1a0D2ZfU/w500-h380/SW22.jpg
Events

May 2018

9th – 11th May | Krakow, Poland
EWMA – European Wound Management Association, Booth W411
www.ewma.org/it/ewma-conference/2018/

15th – 18th May | Leipzig, Germany
OTWorld, Hall 1 | Booth B04
www.ot-world.com

June 2018

7th – 9th June | Reims, France
Journées de printemps de l’AFCP
www.afcp.mcocongres.com

Jun 21st – 23th, 2018 | Rheine, Germany
The Neuropathic Foot
www.charcotfootcourses.org

Jun 28th – 29th, 2018 | London, UK
Joint 4th ADFS Annual Conference and King’s Charcot Foot Reconstruction Symposium
www.a-dfs.org/conference-2018/

Imprint

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