

TechLINK

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REHABTech's CAD/CAM Service—Update

Since the establishment of the CAD/CAM support service at **REHAB Tech** in June 1997, the system has been used to train eight prosthetists and produced over 110 sockets for 74 patients. Most of this activity has involved the Caulfield Amputee Unit and Orthotic Prosthetic Services Tasmania. As reported in previous issues, there has also been significant research and development carried out using the equipment.

The initial indications are that as prosthetists become familiar with the benefits of using CAD/CAM technology, the scope of use for this technology is increasing.

On the **World Wide Web**

■ **Education's Leading Edge** by Joanne M Glenn in the January issue of *O & P Almanac* p 35-38, reports that three American P&O schools are using technology to encourage "problem-solving and forward thinking in their students."

• **University of Washington** (Seattle WA) prepares interactive case studies for the Web. Their students are able to apply the educational theory to a particular problem by dealing directly with industry. • **University of Texas** (UTSMC) curriculum is multimedia-based to make managing day-to-day lectures easier for students. They use laptops to access on-line courses and soon will be involved in further distance education. • **Northwestern University** (NUPOC) focusses technology on the postbaccalaureate levels so that students truly understand the problems they need to solve by means of a combination of both traditional and contemporary technologies.

The article concludes that the distance learning enabled by technology advances will lead to better informed students and increased time for faculty to develop a new curriculum.

■ **Electronic Technology Aids UE Amputees** in *O & P Business World* – Winter 1999 is in line with **REHABTech's** course on Upper Limb Management in May (<http://www.oandp.com/publicat/busworld/fea5.htm>). It reviews aspects of both mechanically and electronically controlled upper limb prostheses in terms of patient needs and resources from a private limb bank. Two practitioners discuss the management of upper-limb amputation and product improvements. The same journal takes

■ **A Look at Myoelectric Technology** (<http://www.oandp.com/publicat/busworld/fea6.htm>) by Sears and Rendi. They discuss attitudes to electric devices and the enhancements that have been made to these prostheses over time.

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MONASH
UNIVERSITY

**NEW COURSE
at REHABTech**

CAD/CAM for Prosthetists — A Clinical Approach

The course is designed for prosthetists and aims to introduce the CAD/CAM technology and present a clinical approach to its use based on experience gained within a rehabilitation setting.

Teaching methods include lectures, demonstrations, tutorials and hands-on CAD/CAM experience.

After an initial familiarisation session with the Shapemaker software, an amputee will be cast and assessed. The course participants will then have an opportunity to digitise, modify, carve and checkfit a prosthetic socket. Those who attend will gain an insight into the advantages and disadvantages of the clinical application of CAD/CAM. (This course is available to prosthetists at all levels of computer expertise.)

Contact **REHABTech** to register interest in the course.

The course was developed by Karen Montgomery, REHABTech's Senior Prosthetist/Orthotist for 1998. This annual position has been created to encourage undertaking of projects which will be of benefit to the industry.

Register now...

for the annual **Clinical Management of Upper Limb Amputees Course**.

The training course, conducted by **REHABTech** from 17 – 21 May, offers a multi-disciplinary approach to the management of upper limb amputees and includes assessment, intervention, and long-term follow up with a focus on continuity of care.

To register ring Karen Roberts on (03) 9528 1960.

Job Watch



**Prosthetics & Orthotics Co-Ordinator/P2 (\$45,505 – \$55,167)
Royal Darwin Hospital**

The Prosthetic and Orthotics Department, of the Northern Rehabilitation Network based at Royal Darwin Hospital, is seeking a motivated and suitably qualified Co-Ordinator to provide services to inpatients and outpatients from a variety of backgrounds. Services are primarily based at RDH with outreach services to rural and remote Northern Territory Hospitals and locations. Applications must address the selection criteria in the Job & Person Profile available by phoning (08) 8922 8346. Write to Recruitment Officer, Royal Darwin Hospital, PO Box 41326, Casuarina, NT 0811, quote Vacancy 2911.

Coming Events

9 April	Update Seminar at Diggers Road Campus, Lavington (Albury Base Hosp.) Contact Vanessa Crosby on 02 6041 9912.
17 – 21 May	Clinical Management of Upper Limb Amputees Course at REHABTech

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