

# TechLINK

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## Telemedicine

The advent of more sophisticated communication technology has established the expression – *telemedicine*. In the treatment of clients with muscular skeletal disabilities telemedicine can be invaluable as it allows for the sharing of information whilst a discussion is taking place. This is also useful for conducting information sessions and seminars to people in a variety of locations.

- As part of the Industry Support Clinics and Update Seminars, REHAB Tech has been investigating and trialing the use of this technology through Monash University's extensive videoconferencing capabilities.
- An Australia-wide seminar is being planned for later this year. However telemedicine for client consultations is already in place.
- For simple consultations the Internet videoconferencing system is available, using NetMeeting™ the address is 130.194.135.49. (More comprehensive consultations can be made using an ISDN based system). **Please contact us for a 'virtual' appointment!**



Figure 1 – Physiotherapist Chris Lindner and Dr Andrew Nunn consider the digital photo of the client's residual limb (viewed at REHAB Tech and remotely) while a face-to-face discussion takes place.

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## ALS Managers' Forum

### *Who are they?*

By now, many in the industry will have heard about the existence of this group and may wonder about its aims and objectives.

The members of the Forum are the Managers of the ALS or its equivalent in every State and Territory. With the devolution of the responsibility for the ALS from the DVA to each State, there was a need to ensure continuity and consistency wherever possible in the provision of prosthetic services to amputees.

The Forum meets and communicates regularly to:

- identify and address issues of common concern,
- promote consistent policy and procedure approaches,
- liaise on funding and cost control,
- and devise ways and means to share information and data where appropriate.

Meetings have been held to coincide with the ISPO annual conference as well as at **REHABTech** and through teleconferencing. (**REHABTech** provides administrative support to the Forum.)

Much effort has been expended on the development of a unit cost indicator, benchmarks, performance indicators, databases and data collection methodology. Valuable progress has been made on these and other issues in the long-term best interest of amputees and the industry.

Ron Simard (Convenor), ALS Managers' Forum

## J ob Watch

### Orthotist PSO 1—South Australia

The Crippled Children's Association of S.A. seek an Orthotist who can meet the following criteria:

1. Qualified, with either a degree or diploma from Latrobe University.
2. Member of AOPA or eligible for membership.
3. Experience in spinal and paediatric orthotics desirable.
4. Ability to work in a team environment.

**Job Description:** Available from Manager, Personnel Services (08) 8243 8205.

Applications in writing (including contact numbers of two referees) to:

Michael Benyk, Manager, Personnel Services  
The Crippled Children's Association of S.A. Inc.  
PO Box 2438, Regency Park, S.A. 5942  
Email: [michael.benyk@cca.org.au](mailto:michael.benyk@cca.org.au) or Fax: (08) 8243 8273

## Coming Events

23 July

Component Inspection Course at OPST, Launceston.  
Please RSVP REHABTech

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