

## National Amputee Database

It is anticipated that the National Amputee Database will be launched on 1 July.

A discussion paper and sample statistics can be found at

[www.alsa.org.au](http://www.alsa.org.au)

## Preparing the Way for Rapid 3D Prototyping in Prosthetics

Pieter Groot, a Dutch mechanical engineering student who is doing his practical training at **REHABTech**, is currently working on using rapid 3D prototyping techniques for making transtibial prostheses. In future it is expected that this will give less expensive, less labour-intensive and lighter prostheses. To contribute to the introduction of these techniques, **REHABTech** is working on a fast conversion method to convert a (surface)shape CAD-file of a prosthesis to a (solid)shape file, in a format that is commonly used in rapid 3D prototyping. Under a separate project the prosthetic CAD file is made up of the socket, alignment and cosmetic finish. The solid CAD-shape can also be used to apply strength analysis on it, so in future a prosthesis can be modelled with a high strength to weight ratio.



*STL-file of a merged prosthesis. In the cut-away (left) the socket can be seen inside the cosmesis.*

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INTERNET - <http://www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech/>

# Job Watch

## Senior Clinical Prosthetist/Orthotist South Australia

An exciting opportunity exists for an experienced prosthetist/orthotist to provide managerial assistance to the Chief Prosthetist/Orthotist whilst maintaining a clinical case load and offering clinical and technical support to unit members. Enquiries and requests for job specification:

Mrs Raelene Jarvis (08) 8275 1894  
Applications in writing to:  
Mr G Croser, Human Resources  
Consultant,  
Repatriation General Hospital,  
Daw Park, SA 5141.

## Clinical Orthotist/Prosthetist Regional South Australia

An Orthotist/Prosthetist is required by Whyalla Hospital and health services to provide inpatient and outpatient care in regional South Australia. The position is based in Whyalla with clinics in Port Lincoln, Port Pirie and Port Augusta.

Inquiries and requests for job specifications to Chris McCann (08) 8648 8316.

## GST — Prosthetics and Orthotics

A **very very** brief summary...

GST free medical aids and appliances, supplies, prostheses and orthoses are listed as follows:

*Item 68 spinal orthoses*

*Item 69 lower limb orthoses*

*Item 70 Upper limb orthoses*

*Item 71 Pressure management garments and lymphoedema pumps*

*Item 72 callipers*

*Item 73 corsets (Surgical)*

*Item 74 handsplints and cervical collars*

*Item 83 artificial limbs and associated supplements and aids*

Any aid used in the 'treatment' of a patient is GST free **but** only if used in the direct treatment!

However, you still have to maintain records and claim back any GST you pay if you are a business, regardless of whether the client is charged GST or not. Also, suppliers (PSP and component suppliers) must provide a *Tax Invoice* advising if GST is included **but** not necessarily on which items.

We have been advised not to purchase from anyone who wouldn't/couldn't flag what item has GST and what is GST free. Unfortunately that is not always practical.

**REHABTech** may consider organising a teleconference just on the GST issue if there is sufficient interest.

There is a complete manual for health professionals in PDF format that you can download from the AMA website.

The address for the manual is:

<http://domino.ama.com.au/DIR0103/GST.nsf/f5d740e0ae85637a4a25688000230c44/3a355d148b34b5074a256879000a7219?OpenDocument>

Otherwise go to [www.ama.com.au](http://www.ama.com.au) follow the GST LINK and then select Business Skills for Health Professionals link to Business Skills Manual

Good luck for 1 July!

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