

I.S.P.O. 20<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS Stockholm, Sweden 16-19 June 2025

Science in Practice
Practice in Science

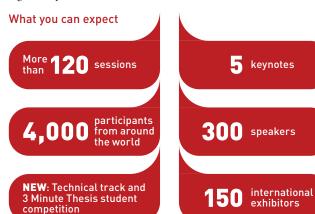
Collaboration and innovation towards sustainable rehabilitation

# FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT





With a mission to reach the global community, the World Congress travels from region to region. For the first time in 10 years, the event will be returning to Europe!



### **Organisers**

International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics



ISPO International and the National Member Societies from Sweden, Norway, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands look forward to welcoming you!

### Diamond sponsor

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## Invitation from the ISPO President



David Constantine MBE
ISPO President 2023-2025
Chair, I.S.P.O. 20th World Congress

Every two years, professionals involved in the support of persons in need of mobility products (prosthetics, orthotics, and wheelchairs), assistive technology, and rehabilitation services get together at the World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics. As ISPO President, I cordially invite you to join us at the I.S.P.O. 20th World Congress in June 2025 in Stockholm. Themed "Science in Practice,

Practice in Science: Collaboration and innovation towards sustainable rehabilitation", the event will shine a spotlight on the vital intersection of science and practice in prosthetics and orthotics. We will aim on sparking discussions on best practices, with a focus on driving sustainable rehabilitation. ISPO's core mission, bridging science and practice, remains the linchpin. At the heart of the World Congress lies a commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

Our highly topical programme is designed to cover the latest scientific and technical developments. Companies exhibiting at the event will provide a comprehensive overview of the global assistive technology market.

I would like to welcome you all, members and non-members alike, to come and take part in this dynamic and exciting international congress that lies at the intersection of all multidisciplinary rehabilitation approaches for those with mobility impairments.

I look forward to seeing you there.



## Congress committees

#### World Congress Committee

David Constantine ISPO President 2023-2025, World Congress Chair

David Rusaw Local Chair

Sandra Ramdial President-Elect of ISPO

Claude Tardif
Past President of ISPO

Jon Batzdorff Treasurer of ISPO

Corry van der Sluis World Congress Scientific Programme Committee Chair

Brad Mattear Technical Track Committee Chair

Erik Prinsen Local Committee Member

#### Scientific Programme Committee



Corry van der Sluis Chair, Netherlands

Deirdre Desmond Past Chair, Ireland

Cleveland Barnett
United Kingdom

Isabella Gigante Sweden

Sisary Kheng Cambodia

Bill Miller Canada

Corien Nikamp Netherlands

Subhash Sinha India

Phil Stevens *USA* 

#### Local Organising Committee



David Rusaw Chair, Sweden

#### ISPO SWEDEN

Liselotte Hermansson Anton Johannesson

#### ISPO NETHERLANDS

Han Houdijk Dick Plettenburg Erik Prinsen

#### ISPO NORWAY

Rune Nilson Pia Nolstedt

### ISPO UNITED KINGDOM

Alix Chadwell Peter Kyberd Stephen Seccombe Saeed Zahedi



Brad Mattear Chair, USA

Marcus Nilsson Co-Chair, Sweden



### Keynote speakers



IC2A Insprational Lecture Christoffer Lindhe Momentum Sweden, IC2A, Lindhe Xtend, Halmstad, Sweden

Christoffer Lindhe is a triple amputee, a former Paralympian swimmer and the founder of his own prosthetic company Lindhe Xtend, based in his home country of Sweden.

At the age of 17, Christoffer lost both his legs as well as his left arm in a train accident. After experiencing this trauma, focusing on competitive swimming gave him something to work for and became so much more meaningful than athletics.

By engaging with the amputee community and becoming an advocate for them, he found a real purpose in life. After gaining a master's degree in product development engineering, Christoffer decided to start his own company making user-friendly prosthetics, employing his own experience to drive change in everyday life for himself as well as for other amputees.

With his #4 ranked YouTube channel about life as an amputee. Christoffer provides tremendous inspiration to countless people as he shares his personal experiences with the global limb-loss community. Christoffer founded the AmpisLiv Association in Sweden, which recently merged with Momentum in Norway. Both organisations are members of the international umbrella organisation IC2A and strong supporters of those living with limb-loss. Last vear Christoffer also became a member of the board at IC2A.



## Keynote speakers



Han Houdijk
Professor of Clinical Movement Sciences,
University Medical Center Groningen,
University of Groningen, Groningen,
The Netherlands

Han Houdijk is a professor of Clinical Movement Sciences at the University Medical Center and the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. He leads the rehabilitation section of the Department of Human Movement Sciences and is head of the Smart Movements research programme.

Han initially trained as a physical therapist. He continued his education as a Human Movement Scientist at the Vrije University Amsterdam, to satisfy his curiosity into the complex elegance of the human movement system; how it allows us to perform normal daily tasks, but also what happens when this system is affected by pathology.

As a human movement scientist, he takes a theoretical approach and combines models from to the field of biomechanics, exercise physiology or motor control to understand the performance of the human movement system in both a healthy and a pathological state. The main focus of his research is to understand and restore walking ability of various patient populations with a strong emphasis on the use of assistive technology.

Han Houdijk has published over 100 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. He actively translates his research results to clinical practice as active member and past president of ISPO-NL and initiator of the newly founded Academic Workplace for Prosthetic Use (ProtheseAcademie) funded by the Dutch Medical Science Research Council.







#### Chapal Khasnabis

Senior Advisor, Assistive Technology, Asian Development Bank, Geneva, Switzerland

Chapal Khasnabis is a trained prosthetist and orthotist who began his professional career in 1979 working at the Ministry of Health and then at the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. In 1994, he founded Mobility India in Bangalore, a resource centre for the Global South.

In 2003, Chapal moved to the World Health Organization to promote prosthetics / orthotics and community-based rehabilitation (CBR) services. While working at the WHO, he developed guidelines, standards and tools for training in prosthetics and orthotics, guidelines and training packages for wheelchairs, CBR guidelines and several other important

documents related to disability, rehabilitation and assistive technology.

In 2013, sensing the growing need for assistive medical devices, particularly in the ageing population, he moved to the Department of Essential Medicines and Health Products within the WHO and developed a worldwide programme entitled "Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology" (GATE).

In 2018, Chapal founded the ATscale Global Partnership for Assistive Technology and in May 2022, he published the first WHO-UNICEF Global Report on Assistive Technology.

On 31 January 2023, Chapal Khasnabis retired from his position as head of the Access to Assistive Technology and Medical Devices Unit at the World Health Organization in Geneva and now works as a senior advisor for the Asian Development Bank to promote the assistive technology industry in Asia and beyond.



## Keynote speakers



Silvestro Micera
Professor of Bioelectronics,
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa,
Italy and Bertarelli Foundation Chair in
Translational NeuroEngineering, Ecole
Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne,
Lausanne, Switzerland

Silvestro Micera is currently a professor of bioelectronics at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (SSSA, Pisa, Italy) and the Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (Lausanne, Switzerland) where he holds the Bertarelli Foundation Chair in Translational NeuroEngineering. He received a university degree (Laurea) in electrical engineering from the University of Pisa in 1996, and a PhD in biomedical engineering from the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, in 2000. From 2000 to 2009, he was an assistant professor of biorobotics at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna.

In 2007 he won a Fulbright scholarship to study as a visiting scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, USA. From 2008 to 2011 he led the neuroprosthesis control group and was a group leader at the Institute for Automation, ETH Zurich, CH. The IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society presented him with the "Early Career Achievement Award" in 2009 and the "Technical Achievement Award" in 2021.

Prof. Dr Micera's research interests include the development of neuroprostheses based on the use of implantable neural interfaces with the central and peripheral nervous systems to restore sensory and motor functions in persons with disabilities.

He is the author of more than 400 WoS peer-reviewed papers and holds several international patents. He is also a member of several editorial boards of peer-reviewed journals in the fields of biomedical and neural engineering.





Paula Rushton

Associate Professor and Director, School of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Health, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Paula Rushton is an associate professor and director at the School of Occupational Therapy at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

She completed her Master of Clinical Science in occupational therapy at the University of Western Ontario (1999), a PhD in rehabilitation sciences at the University of British Columbia (2010) and postdoctoral training at the Université de Montréal in Biomedical Sciences (2014).

Her research focuses on assessment, intervention, knowledge translation, and education related to improving the wheeled mobility of children, adults, and older adults through an improved wheelchair service provision process.

Regarding knowledge translation, assessment and intervention, Rushton is an expert in wheelchair skills and wheelchair confidence.

From an educational perspective, Rushton has been working with the International Society of Wheelchair Professionals to raise the profile of wheelchairs as a topic on the curriculum of university courses for healthcare professionals worldwide.





## Programme information



During the four days of the congress, you can expect a high-quality scientific programme delivered by a variety of professionals from various disciplines and countries in keynote lectures, symposia, instructional courses, free papers and poster presentations.

In addition to the scientific programme, you will have the opportunity to attend practical exhibitor workshops.

There will also be two novelties in the programme: The technical track and 3 Minute Thesis student competition. All sessions will be presented in English.

### Important dates

### Symposium or instructional course proposals

Submission opens in June 2024

Submission closes on 7 October 2024

Acceptance notifications issued by 6 November 2024

### Free paper or poster abstracts

Submission opens in June 2024

Submission closes on 11 November 2024

Acceptance notifications issued by 20 January 2025

### Congress topics

Prosthetics: lower limb transfemoral

Prosthetics lower limb: transtibial, ankle, foot

Prosthetics: bone anchored limbs

Prosthetics and Orthotics: upper limb

Prosthetics and Orthotics: in less resourced settings

Orthotics: spinal

Orthotics: lower limb and footwear

Device fabrication and design

Education

Gait and balance

Health care, policy, sustainability

Outcome measurements

Paediatrics

Psychosocial issues

Rehabilitation medicine and surgery

Robotics, soft robotics, exoskeletons

Seating and wheelchairs

Therapy, physical activity, sports

### Awards and prizes

At the I.S.P.O. World Congresses, the society recognises outstanding achievements by presenting various awards and prizes:

Brian and Joyce Blatchford Team Prize for Innovation

Forchheimer Prize

Sepp Heim Award

World Congress Best Paper and Poster Prizes

### Social events

Social events that reflect the Swedish culture will be organised during the World Congress.

Welcome Reception in the exhibition hall

Monday, 16 June

**Congress Party** 

Wednesday, 18 June



## International exhibition



The industry exhibition will showcase the entire spectrum of products and services in modern orthopaedic treatment and care. Encounter companies from around the world – from the global players to young innovative companies to NGOs, and anything in between.

### Key exhibition areas

Assistive technology

Care of the elderly

Clothing

Digital manufacturing

Disability sports

Education and training

Elastic supports

Movement analysis

Orthopaedic footwear

Orthotics

Podiatry

Prosthetics

Raw / ancillary material, factory supplies

Research and development

Robotics

Services

Therapeutic equipment

Wheelchair and customised solutions

Workshop fixtures and fittings



### International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics



ISPO is a global, multidisciplinary, non-governmental organisation aiming to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices. ISPO provides an effective platform for the exchange and communication on all aspects of research, practice, and education associated with the provision of prosthetic and orthotic care, rehabilitation engineering, and related areas.

ISPO membership covers all professions involved in physical rehabilitation, i. e. prosthetists,

orthotists, prosthetic and orthotic technicians, physical and occupational therapists, orthopaedic surgeons, rehabilitation doctors, biomechanical and rehabilitation engineers, community-based rehabilitation workers as well as assistive technology service providers and users.

You can find out more about ISPO and become a member at www.ispoint.org





## ISPO around the globe

Every two years, professionals involved in the support of persons in need of mobility products (prosthetics, orthotics, and wheelchairs), assistive technology, and rehabilitation services meet at the World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics.

The World Congress is dedicated to connecting the global P&O community and is held in a different country each time.

The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the I.S.P.O. World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden aims to pave the way for sustainable rehabilitation, bringing together science and practice and focusing on collaboration.

2025 Next edition: Stockholm, Sweden

2023 Guadalajara, Mexico

2021 Virtual edition with an international focus

2019 Kobe, Japan

2017 Cape Town, South Africa

2015 Lyon, France

2013 Hyderabad, India

**2010** Leipzig, Germany

2007 Vancouver, Canada



## Why Stockholm?

Stockholm is Sweden's capital city and an amazing place to visit. Located in the eastern part of the country and built on 14 islands surrounded by vast expanses of open water, it is a unique and memorable city. Anywhere you go in this cosmopolitan capital city, you are never far from a picturesque park or other scenic spot. You will love the impressive historic sights and attractions, art galleries and museums, often within easy walking distance of one another. What's more, this metropolis is one of the most dynamic, creative and exciting cities in the world.

With direct flight connections from over 150 destinations worldwide, getting to Stockholm is easy. The Arlanda Express takes you conveniently from the airport to the central station. Once you arrive in the city centre, it is easy to get around town and to the congress venue.

Extend your stay and enjoy the Midsummer Festival that begins right after the World Congress has ended. Midsummer marks the official start of summer and is one of Sweden's most important holidays. This is a celebration you can't afford to miss!



Stockholm is ranked as one of the most popular congress destinations in the world and with its strong commitment to sustainability, this capital city is also the perfect location for our event.

The I.S.P.O. 20th World Congress will be taking place at Stockholmsmässan, Scandinavia's largest venue for trade fairs, conferences and events.







### Registration

Registration fees and applicable conditions will be published on www.ispo-congress.com. Online registration will open in November 2024.

#### Contact us



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