

"Official association that promotes the specificities of protshetic and orthotic companies to internationals organizations"



#### **INTERBOR News**

By the Secretary General of INTERBOR Mr. Philippe Fourny:

## French speaking countries (Belgium, France and Québec) cooperate

In October 2015, in association with the order of technologists specialists in Québec, UFOP (France) visited two High Schools in Québec city and Montréal to investigate the possibility of a mutual recognition. During these meetings, the opportunity to merge common internships between French speaking areas arise. The first step in this process began in January 2016 with a meeting in Paris between these three countries and INTERBOR. The two main ideas that emerged were:

- ➤ The internship needs to be three weeks long, consisting of one integration week in the High School and two weeks in one company.
- > The teaching staff from the visiting school are required to organize the exchange during their school break.



# INTERBOR was officially accredited by European Institutions in July 2015

INTERBOR, Edmond Deschoolmeester and Philippe Fourny were registered in the transparency register of the European Parliament and Council. This gives us the opportunity to be consulted concerning new legislation in our field. This will also serve as a "passport" to access key stakeholders and springboard our exhibition project.



## FATO joins INTERBOR in 2016

Federal association of Africans orthopedists and Orthotists (FATO) were able to join INTERBOR with the assistance from Jacques Van Rolleghem Foundation who funded their annual member ship fees. The President Edmond Deschoolmeester has been invited to the next FATO congress, August 2016, in Lomé (Benin) where he will be able to present the INTERBOR nomenclature. Using this nomenclature could be a way for some African countries to structure the administration of our medical devices. The Slovak experience in this field could be a useful demonstration.

Dear all,

We are pleased to send you some information relating to the next FATO Congress that will be held from 21 to 26 August 2016.

Thank you to click n the following link: <a href="http://congres2016.fatoafrique.org/index.php/en/fatocongresses/">http://congres2016.fatoafrique.org/index.php/en/fatocongresses/</a> for more information.

We look forward to welcoming you in Lomé in next August.

Best regards

Masse NIANG

President of FATO

### 9 September 2016, next General Assembly in Paris

Our French friends will organize our 29<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in the prestigious Museum of nature and hunting located in the Marais. We will debrief our last year activity and participation to the FATO Congress and prepare our next meeting with the ILO (International Labour Organization) about our needing to be recognize as paramedic all over the world. Our project of European exhibition will be examined with partner like University of Reims. It will be completed with a private visit of the Museum

### SLOVAKIA's Experience

By the INTERBOR Vice-President, Mr. Robert Wagner

Last year became a milestone in orthotics and prosthetics in Slovakia. The reason is that after more than a decade of efforts, the national professional association APTO, supported heavily by the INTERBOR, successfully accomplished the task of a nationwide unification of the custom O&P devices nomenclature in the country. Nonetheless, it all began almost a decade ago by APTO becoming the member of the INTERBOR. Just two years in membership, it was late 2007 when the INTERBOR's lobbying at the Slovak Ministry of Health (MoH) played an important role in the APTO initiative of passing an amendment to the Act on Health Care Providers through the Slovak Parliament. On January 1, 2008, coming into effect that amendment established for the first time by law an official representative organization of orthopedic technicians in Slovak Republic - the Slovak Chamber of Orthopedic Technicians that is mandatorily consulted by the government agencies, including the MoH and health insurance companies, when developing or amending a national health care legislation. That was just the first step, however, that eventually led to 9 months of the nomenclature negotiations between O&P providers represented by APTO under the umbrella of the Slovak Chamber of Orthopedic Technicians and health insurance companies from August 2014 to April 2015. Using the framework of the INTERBOR's updated nomenclature of orthotic and prosthetic devices, those 9 months gave birth to the historically first unified nomenclature of custom O&P devices in Slovakia. The nomenclature consists of more than 900 specific items and came into effect on July 1, 2015 with the stateowned GENERAL Health Insurance Company and subsequently with the resting two private health insurance companies DOVERA and UNION on January 1, 2016 and February 1, 2016, respectively. This unified and nationwide nomenclature anchored the same items with exactly the same amount of labour, i.e. man-hours per each item, for every provider of custom orthotic and prosthetic devices in Slovakia. Nevertheless, the price of a man-hour is still negotiated individually in the contracts by each health insurance company with every of the current 22 O&P providers, and it ranges from 9 to 15 Euro per hour of work. The margin has been set at the same level with each health insurance company on a national level and varies degressively from 19% to 15%. The 19% margin is allowed for custom O&P devices with the total costs of labour and material up to Eur 1,000 incl. The 18% margin is set for the items with the total costs of labour and material from Eur 1,001 to Eur 2,000. The 17% margin applies in the case of the total costs of labour plus material varying from Eur 2,001 to Eur 5,000. And finally, the 15% margin belongs to the devices with the total costs of labour and material of more than Eur 5,001 inclusive. Generally, that means applying the 15% margin for a majority of the prosthetics fitted in Slovakia, including those with microprocessor controlled knees such as C-Leg, Genium, Hybrid, Allux, Rheo Knee or Orion. All those accomplishments in our O&P field would probably hardly happened this way in Slovakia, unless the APTO became a member of the INTERBOR back in 2006, and unless there was a ready-touse and adapt INTERBOR nomenclature. Thanks.

#### Yellow crosses for the Orthopaedics

Yellow Crosses

(Cruces Amarillas) is a campaign from the Spanish Federation of Orthopaedics in order to let society know the profession of orthotics.

The first step was the creation of www.crucesamarillas.com, a web page that explains very simply the different ways Orthopaedics can help us. There are also innovation products, new technological developments, interviews, curiosities...

In addition, the web has a powerful locator of orthopedic shops in Spain so that the user always knows where to find a professional to treat him.

We are also present on Face book with the group "Cruces Amarillas", which brings together all those interested in the world of Orthopaedics, professional or not.

Join the group "Cruces Amarillas" on Facebook and take part of the yellow movement in favor of the Orthopaedics and its professionals, where you can read curious news, comment on what interests you and be the first to know about interesting developments in the sector.





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#### INTERBOR is a:

- ✓ Official association that promotes the specificities of prosthetic and orthotic companies to internationals organizations
- $\checkmark$  An International association of Prosthetists, Orthotists and manufacturerq of orthopaedic shoes.
- ✓ A Non-Governmental Organization
- ✓ In Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.
- ✓ In Official Relations with the World Health Organiszation.
- ✓ Accredited by the European Parliament

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