

## Special points of interest:

- ROMP in Pakistan: development trip planned for January
- Zacapa, Guatemala lab up and running! Over 150 devices already fit
- BSN-Jobst donates over \$5,000 in supplies
- Rotary Club Libertyville, IL awards ROMP with development grant to fund prosthetic care for over 50 amputees!
- Scheck and Sires O&P donates thermoplastic oven and other critical equipment for future lab building projects
- 50/50 amputee sponsorship program achieving goals

## ROMP Staff

David Krupa CP  
CEO

Eric Neufeld CO  
President

Josh Kaplan  
CFO

## ROMP in Guatemala...Lab Building Completed!

On October 31st, 2005, ROMP's goals of building a fully functional orthotic and prosthetic lab were met. Now part of the *Kevin O'Halloran Centro de rehabilitacion*, built by *Hearts in Motion*, the ROMP lab is up and running! The equipment we shipped from Chicago all arrived, and with the help of the wonderful *Hearts in Motion* volunteers, we were able to assemble the lab and



began providing direct patient care. This is a major step for ROMP, we are now capable of applying resources, equipment, training and direct patient care to a population in desperate need. It is



There are very few Orthotic and Prosthetic (O&P) labs to provide prosthetic care. The facilities that are available are only in the metro-Guatemala City area and in many cases are cost prohibitive for most of the amputee population. Since the initial lab development project in October, a clinic was held December 9, 2005 and another patient care



estimated that there are over 51,500 amputees in Guatemala.

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ROMP directors David Krupa and Eric Neufeld participated in a week long training seminar in *Low-Cost Fabrication Techniques in Prosthetics* in Managua, Nicaragua in early October, 2005. The seminar was offered by the *International committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)* who have designed a method of fabricating custom designed, durable and cosmetic prosthetic limbs. The system uses *polypropylene*, a thermoformable plastic in the fabrication of the devices. The material is inexpensive and readily available, and provides a high-quality, durable device. Throughout the week, ROMP learned about the system and had the opportunity to meet many amputees and even fabricated a Prosthesis using this technology. Our plan to provide ongoing, high-quality care in Guatemala and throughout the developing world includes using this ICRC technology, to keep costs



and expenses low, and to provide amputees with their own, durable and fully functional prosthesis, that we know in many cases is the tool preventing them from being productive and active members of their families and communities. The system also allows us to create a standardized approach, for fabrication that is easily taught and applied.

## New prosthetic fabrication technique combines low cost with high-quality and durability

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We are very excited about this method and plan on implementing this technique in ROMP missions beginning in February, 2006. Our thanks to *Healing Hands for Haiti* and the ICRC for collaborating in this productive seminar.

## Upcoming Events

2006 is starting off with some very exciting projects. We anticipate continued success and development throughout the year providing no-cost prosthetic limbs and orthotic braces to those in need who otherwise have no access to these services.

**January 14-21:** Along with several volunteers from Hanger Orthopedic Group and Scheck and Siress advanced Orthotics and Prosthetics, Dave Krupa will be going to **Islamabad, Pakistan** to participate in prosthetic consultation, lab building and direct patient care. It is estimated that there are over 5000 new amputees following the devastating earthquake on October 8. Since it has been several months since the disaster, amputated limbs should be well healed and ready for prosthetic care. The group will be traveling and practicing under the supervision of the Pakistani Government.

**January 29—February 4:** Romp will be participating in the *Limbs for Ecuador Project*, in collaboration with *Fundacion Hermano Miguel* in **Quito, Ecuador**. The project, led by Dino Cozarelli will treat up to 50 amputees during this clinic. This commitment in time and care reaches far beyond the lives of the amputees being treated, but to their families and communities that many of them will now be able to contribute to and participate in.

**February 3-12:** A clinic will be returning to the ROMP lab in **Zacapa, Guatemala**. The goals of this mission are to follow-up on patients we've seen in past trips, to assess and address any needs for the lab, to host an amputee clinic to treat 20 amputees, to interview potential local practitioners and to begin implementation of ICRC polypropylene technology. This trip is a continuation of our ongoing effort to develop a sustainable and locally operated prosthetic rehabilitation center to serve children and families with the most need.

### January, 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
— ROMP in Islamabad, Pakistan—Earthquake relief clinic —						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
Quito, Ecuador						

### February, 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Limbs for Ecuador</i>		<i>Zacapa</i>		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
— Guatemala—Prosthetic clinic with <i>Hearts in Motion</i> —						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



**“Thank you to our generous friends and sponsors. You are making our vision a reality.”**

**-ROMP**

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