

Otto Bock HealthCare and Ohio Willow Wood Reach Agreement over Intellectual Property

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Industry leaders reach amicable solution for socket technology products

MINNEAPOLIS, MN December 1, 2008 - Otto Bock HealthCare GmbH, Otto Bock HealthCare LLP and Ohio Willow Wood, Inc. have signed an agreement, effective December 1, 2008, that allows limited sharing of intellectual property related to liner and vacuum technologies. Their arrangement permits both organizations to continue investing in manufacturing, research and development in the field of socket technology.

"Protecting our advanced technology while providing invaluable function to the market is a wonderful result to our negotiations," said Helmut Pfuhl, Otto Bock's Chief Marketing Officer. "Vacuum technology and high-tech liners are invaluable tools for helping patients experience the highest possible quality of life."

According to Robert E. Arbogast, President of Ohio Willow Wood, "I am pleased to be able to reach an agreement that protects our patents and our product line. Ultimately, we are confident that our customers and their patient's will benefit from our friendly resolution."

Bert Harman, Otto Bock North America's President and CEO, added that "Otto Bock is passionate about moving technology forward, and this agreement strengthens the position of both companies. Combined, we have nearly 200 years of O&P history between us and I respect the rich tradition of innovation that has benefited the industry."

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Minnesota-based Otto Bock HealthCare LP was established in 1958 as the North American headquarters of Otto Bock HealthCare, GmbH, based in Duderstadt, Germany. Otto Bock is the global leader in the prosthetic industry and has more than 3,800 employees worldwide. Worldwide, more than 25,000 types of prosthetic and orthotic components, mobility and rehabilitation products are delivered worldwide, leading the U.S. in delivery of continuous passive motion (CPM) services and related therapies.