

IC2A at the 16th ISPO World Congress 2017
Cape Town, South Africa
Project report

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IC2A is a member of the
Global Cooperation on
Assistive Technology



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International Confederation of Amputee Associations (IC2A)

President: Dr. Nils-Odd Tønnevold, Norway. Vice President: Dieter Jüptner, Germany.

Secretary: Jean-Pascal Hons-Olivier, France.

Correspondence: Sandra Sexton, IC2A Secretariat Manager. E: secretariat@ic2a.eu W: www.ic2a.eu
c/o 95 Dryburgh Road, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, Scotland, United Kingdom, ML2 7JH

IC2A is a non-profit organisation registered in Belgium (number 657.961.193). Chaussée de Wave 41A, 4217 Heron, Belgium



Project summary

The International Confederation of Amputee Associations (IC2A) has a vision to inspire improvement in the quality of life of amputees and individuals born with limb deficiency. Our mission is to help national amputee associations to share experiences, knowledge and best-practices about amputee health and wellbeing at the international level.



Our partner organisation, the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO), is a global multidisciplinary non-governmental organization aiming to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices. ISPO supported the launch of IC2A in 2015 and our partnership has an ongoing Memorandum of Understanding.

ISPO's major conference activity is the World Congress which takes place every two years. The event combines scientific sessions, round-tables, seminars, instructional courses and audiovisual presentations, with a large trade and scientific exhibition. The 2017 ISPO World Congress took place in Cape Town, South Africa. This project was about enabling the IC2A team to exhibit, network and participate in the congress. IC2A also held the 2nd IC2A Annual General Meeting of amputee association members and a *Think Tank Meeting on the Future of Prosthetics Services* with our amputee association and corporate members.

As IC2A became a newly registered non-profit organisation in 2016 (registered in Belgium), this project was critical to helping to establish IC2A in the international community. The IC2A team joined over 2000 delegates from 106 countries. The event included keynote lectures, six parallel scientific paper sessions, a scientific poster display and a major exhibition that included 120 exhibitors displaying products, services and initiatives with the theme being "Assistive Technology for All". All our activities in relation to this project were in pursuit of our vision and mission. The feedback from users, health care professionals, user associations, industry partners, the World Health Organization and our partner organisation ISPO is that IC2A is a very welcome initiative. Our activity in South Africa resulted in increased interest and membership.



Seamus Ryan, Susan Jüptner, Giles Duley and Dirk Ruitenbeek



Erika Van Hoofstadt, Giles Duley and Hannelore Vens

The 2017 IC2A Exhibition Team

12 volunteers from 7 countries supported IC2A to have a strong presence at the event and to amplify the users' voice. We are grateful to the following people who gave their time to enable us to exhibit at the event:

Amputee Association member volunteers		
Jean-Pascal Hons-Olivier Secretary, IC2A ADEPA, France	Dieter Jüptner Vice-President, IC2A BMAB, Germany	Susan Jüptner BMAB, Germany
Dirk Ruitenbeek KMK, Netherlands	Lynda Ruitenbeek KMK, Netherlands	Nils–Odd Tønnevold President, IC2A Momentum, Norway
Seamus Ryan, Amputee Disability Federation Ireland	Erika Van Hoofstadt Amptraide, Belgium	Hannelore Vens* Amptraide, Belgium
IC2A Secretariat volunteers		
June Burgess Secretariat, IC2A UK	Sandra Sexton Secretariat, IC2A, UK	Angie Weatherhead Secretariat IC2A, UK

*Jan Maes and Leonie Deriemaeker also attended as film crew to Hannelore Vens.

We invested in congress registrations for our Amputee Association member volunteers so that they could access the exhibition, scientific talks and company product demonstrations throughout the congress. Several of our volunteers had not had the opportunity to attend such a congress before, and we believe that enabling prosthesis users to participate in an international congress is important and aligns with our Confederation aims.



Jean-Pascal Hons-Olivier, Hannelore Vens and Nils–Odd Tønnevold



The main auditorium

The IC2A Exhibition Stand

Our 3-meter square deluxe exhibition stand was sited prominently in the exhibition hall adjacent to the international lounge. The stand was a fantastic networking point, drawing many delegates throughout all four days of exhibition.



Nils-Odd Tønnevold (IC2A) and Laura Burgess (ISPO) promote the advocacy campaign



Giles Duley at his book signing

For the first two days, Giles Duley was present and signed copies of his book “One Second of Light”. Giles was kind enough to take time to speak to a multitude of delegates drawn by his photography work. The stand continued to be very busy throughout the congress and many new contacts were made.

Our volunteers took turns to have two persons on the stand for the duration of the exhibition. This enabled us to have a strong presence at the congress and the stand proved to be a successful hub of activity. At times more people were needed on the stand and our volunteers were flexible and generous with their time.



Dieter Jüptner, Alan Hutchison and Seamus Ryan



IC2A Secretariat volunteers Angie Weatherhead, Sandy Sexton and June Burgess

We invested in hiring an exhibition package with storage cupboards, seats with armrests (to assist with standing) and a coffee table. Stand set up took place on the day before the event.

IC2A Inspirational Lecture

Giles Duley, Hon FRPS, worked as a successful fashion and music photographer for ten years. However, having become disillusioned with celebrity culture, he decided to abandon photography and left London to begin work as a full-time carer. It was in this role that he rediscovered his craft and its power to tell the stories of those without a voice.

In 2000, he returned to photography, personally funding trips to document the work of Non-Government Organisations and the stories of those affected by conflict across the world. In 2011, Giles lost both legs and his left arm after stepping on an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Afghanistan whilst photographing those caught up in the conflict. He was told he would never walk again and that his career was over. However, characteristically stubborn, Duley told his doctors “I’m still a photographer”, and returned to work less than 18 months later.

Following a call for nominations from the IC2A Amputee Association members and the ISPO Board members, Giles was selected from a shortlist of ten excellent nominations by a panel of two representatives of IC2A and two representatives of ISPO.

On 8 May 2017, Giles Duley, photographer, was awarded the first IC2A Inspirational Medal after his inaugural IC2A Inspirational Lecture during the opening ceremony of the 16th ISPO World Congress 2017. The IC2A Lecture featured prominently and was a resounding success and set the tone for the entire conference, raising awareness about the importance of access to good rehabilitation services to enable someone to achieve their own goals.



Nils–Odd Tønnevoll (IC2A President) presents Giles Duley with the Inspirational Medal after his lecture at the opening ceremony



Participation in the ISPO Open Board meeting



Nils-Odd Tønnevoll presenting IC2A activities at the ISPO Open Board

As an official partner of ISPO with a Memorandum of Understanding, IC2A has a place at the ISPO Open Board along with other international partner organisations. IC2A President Nils-Odd Tønnevoll gave a presentation on IC2A activities within hours of arrival.

2nd Annual General Meeting

On 10th May we held our IC2A AGM which went according to plan.

Think Tank on the Future of Prosthetics Services

On 10th May, we held our first ever, inaugural IC2A Think Tank with representatives of ISPO, corporate members and amputee association members gathered around the table. The Think Tank considered priorities for the future of prosthetics service provision presented by each invited delegate in turn and these were prioritised as follows:

- Promote the 60 WHO Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Cost benefit analysis/data
- Skills shortage (train more professionals and increase productivity of existing personnel)
- Safety and security
- Comfort, no pain – socket fit/comfort – phantom/stump
- Communications model – user/professional and information sharing
- Policy – improve contract models for services



The 2017 IC2A Think Tank meeting

Sponsorship



Our project “IC2A at the 16th ISPO World Congress 2017, Cape Town, South Africa” was made possible thanks to a successful application for a grant for Euros 30,000 from Grünenthal GmbH. This covered exhibition stand charges, travel and subsistence for founding board members, other amputee association member volunteers and some secretariat travel.

The project matched 3 criteria for Grünenthal GmbH grants namely:

1. promotes excellence in patient care
2. supports national and international healthcare institutions
3. supports activities that benefits the community



IC2A inspirational speaker costs and the creation of the IC2A medal were covered by IC2A general funds.

In kind support of time, talent and additional expenses were covered by all volunteers, for which we are very grateful.

Expenditure

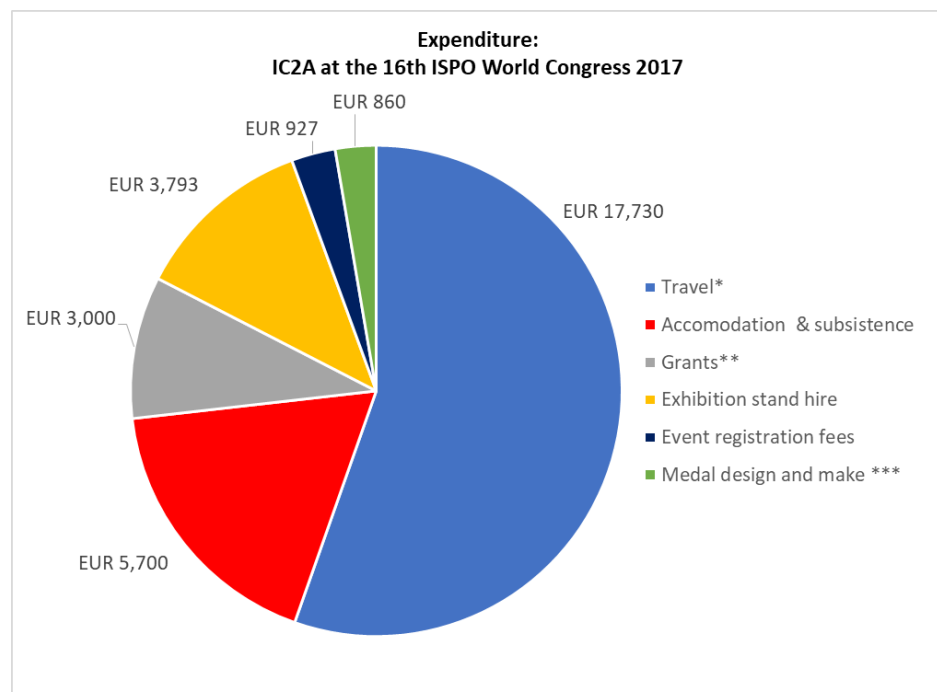
The pie chart shows the breakdown of Euro 32,010 expenditure.

Notes:

*For people with a disability with medical reasons, business class travel was essential to enable attendance leading to a relatively high travel cost.

** Three grants of Euro1000 were made to IC2A founding member amputee associations not represented on the Board (Amptraide, Belgium; Amputee Disability Federation, Ireland; and KMK-KorterMaarKraachtig, Netherlands).

**5 medals were cast, taking us to 2027 as they are awarded every second year.



Accessibility

We overcame all obstacles and were able to access most areas of the exhibition and scientific programme but additional effort and energy was needed to enable *inclusion for all*. Areas noted for attendance at future events include:

Communications about our accessibility requirements before and during the event were raised with different people if they were about the scientific congress, the exhibition or the stand package. As exhibitors, we were also registrants, and this seemed to duplicate administration for us.

Airport – Hotel transfers: The signposting to the congress welcome booth was limited. There was then some confusion between the desk and drivers about the accessible transport that had been booked. This resulted in people making great efforts to transfer between wheelchair and a minibus or car. At future events we should ensure a better informed meet and greet facility.

Hotel: We asked about accessibility and chose the closest and most accessible possible venue to the congress centre which was “The Cullinan” hotel. This enabled everybody to move between the hotel and congress centre. Some physical challenges for amputees arose because of the “short” walk between the hotel and our exhibition stand. This took eight minutes, included a sloping driveway with no handrails at the hotel entrance and sloping pavement crossing points.

Cape Town International Convention Centre: Access to 3 levels was possible using elevators.

The exhibition area was on ground level and stands were accessible walking with prostheses or with wheelchairs. Although we had requested mobility scooters, electric wheelchairs had been provided free of charge by Leipziger Messe GmbH in liaison with Otto Bock. Unfortunately, these were not suitable for one of our group who needed a mobility scooter, thus limiting our volunteer’s full participation as they would have wished.

The main auditorium was sloped with steps. The area was entered from the back of the room where there was a small level area at the back doors and another level area at the front of the stage. The back flat area was very busy. There was no signing at all to the lift to be able to access the front of stage area and on the day of the opening ceremony the stewards were unaware of this. There were no handrails at the steps up to the stage. Although there was a lift access up to the stage, this was quite some distance away and entering stage left was dark through the access area. There was no hearing loop.

The board room meeting room was ideally located, but unfortunately did not have a hearing loop, limiting two of our members being able to readily participate in discussions. We will investigate portable hearing loops if this arises at the next venue.

