

# Preferred Post

Bringing news and service details to you every quarter.



## Improved Personalized Prosthetics Help Return Quality of Life



Prosthetic devices enable millions of people to overcome the devastation of loss of limb. In fact, occupational amputation cases account for approximately 19,700 cases per year or 1.5 amputations per 10,000 full-time workers.<sup>1</sup> Be they functional or aesthetic, prosthetics allow amputees to return to a quality of life they had before their injury.

Preferred Medical Network provides amputees with a comfortable, custom, quality, life-like prosthesis. Plus, injured workers receive the personal attention and relationship that will reduce the stress experienced with other "assembly-line" suppliers. Besides conventional prosthetics, Preferred

Medical Network offers LIVINGSKIN<sup>®</sup> products, a distinguished brand.

LIVINGSKIN is very life-like with a natural composition and sheen as opposed to a shiny surface, allowing prosthetic users to fit in with little to no notice of their prosthetics. Lasting years longer than traditional vinyl, these prosthetics are color safe and stain resistant. The devices can also be interchanged with existing options such as a hook that may be preferred for utility but not social functions. LIVINGSKIN<sup>®</sup> can also be used to cover existing myoelectric and body powered prostheses that may be unsatisfactory in appearance or durability.

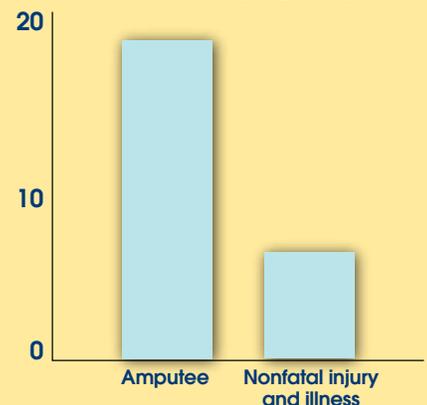
### Did you know...

that studies show that certain factors increase the likelihood of amputee success in returning to work? As amputees average a significant difference in days away from work (18 days compared to the 6 days for all nonfatal injuries and illnesses<sup>2</sup>), it is important to facilitate controllable factors having a positive influence on return to work, which include:

- Use and comfort of prosthetic
- Vocational services
- Returning to a less physically demanding job

Overall, approximately two-thirds of amputees are able to return to work following medical treatment and rehabilitation (based on a literature review of lower limb amputation<sup>3</sup>).

Average days away from work by injury type



**Preferred Medical Network offers complete services to help injured workers recover. Contact us to discuss our range of services and savings we can offer you.**

<sup>1</sup> Based on 1999 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), reported 2003.

<sup>2</sup> BLS, 2003, based on 2001 data.

<sup>3</sup> "Return to work after lower limb amputation," Burger H, Marincek C. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 2007 September 15; 29(17):1323-9.