

AMERICAN BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS, PROSTHETICS AND PEDORTHICS, INC.



ANNUAL REPORT 2008



Setting Standards,
Improving Outcomes,
Changing Lives



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THE MISSION of the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) is to establish and promote the highest standards of organizational and clinical performance in the delivery of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic services. The ABC advances the competency of practitioners, promotes the quality and effectiveness of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care, and maintains the integrity of the profession.

Setting Standards,
Improving Outcomes,
Changing Lives

**American Board for Certification in
Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc.**

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Message from the President

Michael J. Allen, CPO, FAAOP

It was my honor to serve as the President of ABC during the 60th year of our commitment to setting the highest standards for the profession.

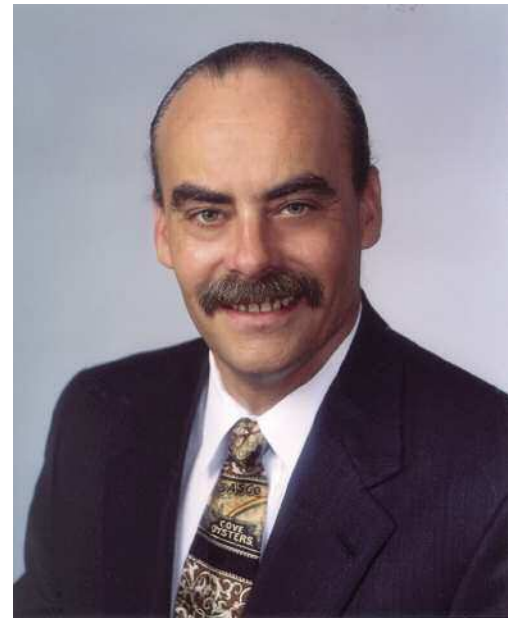
We had an unwavering plan for accomplishment and I'm pleased to report to the profession that it was a successful year. This Annual Report will give you the specifics accomplishments of each program, and how it compared to the year before.

I'm very proud to have been involved in the decision to create a Director of Clinical Resources position within our staff. The decision to add an orthotic and prosthetic professional to our staff is giving us the opportunity to fully represent the clinical aspects of our programming. Stephen B. Fletcher, CPO, has served ABC as a dedicated volunteer for many years, and brings vast experience, talent and vision to his new responsibilities with ABC.

Much of our efforts this year were spent continuing to educate the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on the complexity and levels of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic practice. We have been helping CMS develop reasonable and appropriate Quality Standards and guidelines for our profession, and believe we are seeing our efforts pay off. Our facility accreditation program is fully prepared for future changes in CMS' programmatic requirements.

In February 2008, ABC began awarding "discipline specific" continuing education credits, when appropriate, to Category I approved programs. This has allowed us to continue to further our mission of ensuring continued competency in specific disciplines.

We enjoyed our second full year of having Certified Pedorthists as part of the family of ABC credentials. The integration of the former Board for Certification in Pedorthics (BCP) has been successfully completed, and we said farewell to David C. Cardillo, C.Ped. who served on both the BCP and ABC board of directors during this time of transition. ABC completed its first Practice Analysis of Certified Pedorthists, and has modified the certification examinations in response to the results of the study.



Our Professional Discipline Committee has seen an unfortunate increase in the amount of its caseload, and we take seriously our responsibility to ensure compliance with the *Code of Professional Responsibility & Rules and Procedures*. A larger number of agencies are beginning to rely on ABC for appropriately ensuring the ethical conduct of our credentialed individuals and facilities.

On a personal note, my duties as President were considerably lightened by the members of the board of directors, our committees and our dedicated staff, with whom it was my pleasure to serve ABC, the profession and the public. I cannot thank them enough.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. J. Allen, CPO". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael J. Allen, CPO, FAAOP

ABC's Vision and Key Strategic Initiatives

The ABC Vision

The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) will become the comprehensive credentialing organization for establishing recognized standards for individuals and organizations providing orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care and services.

The ABC Board of Directors adopted the following vision statement to express the impact that ABC programs have on the public:

**Setting Standards,
Improving Outcomes,
Changing Lives**



Key Strategic Initiatives

Governance

ABC establishes a governance and policy committee structure that optimally supports achievement of the ABC certification marks as the highest standards of quality in orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care.

Certification

ABC's certification and professional credentialing programs become the preferential program for health care professions to become the recognized providers of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic patient care.

Accreditation

ABC's facility accreditation program becomes the preferential mechanism for orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic patient care facilities to demonstrate compliance with recognized standards of quality orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic patient care.

Continuing Education

ABC's professional continuing education program continues to serve as the principal mechanism to promote the advancement of professional competency in the provision of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic patient care.

Professional Discipline

ABC's *Code of Professional Responsibility & Rules and Procedures* is recognized as the principal standards that governs the professional, ethical and moral integrity of those individuals and facilities engaged in the delivery of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care.

Public Relations and Marketing

ABC's public outreach programs achieve the recognition of the ABC certification and accreditation standards as the nationally accepted **Mark of Merit** for the orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthic profession.

2008 Board & Committee Members

Board of Directors

Michael J. Allen, CPO, FAAOP
President

Robert S. Lin, CPO, FAAOP
President-Elect

Donald Deane Doty, Jr., CPO
Secretary-Treasurer

Stephen B. Fletcher, CPO
Immediate Past-President

Todd F. Anderson, CP, FAAOP

Michael D. Brncick, CPO

David C. Cardillo, C.Ped.

Thomas F. Coakley (Public Member)

Dennis J. Janisse, C.Ped.

John M. Kenney, CPO, FAAOP

Donald D. Virostek, CPO

Kristi E. Wilson-Hill, PhD (Public Member)

Catherine A. Carter
Executive Director

Committee Rosters

Facility Accreditation Committee

Donald Ray Cummings, CP (Chair)

Michael D. Brncick, CPO

Don E. Cooper, C.Ped.

Kimberly Doolan (Public Member)

Pamala D. Lupo, CO

Wendy Schnell, CFm

Donald G. Shurr, CPO

Mark K. Taylor, CPO, FAAOP

Standards Review Subcommittee

Donald G. Shurr, CPO (Chair)

Brett R. Saunders, CPO, FAAOP

James H. Wynne, CPO

Pedorthic Accreditation Subcommittee

Don E. Cooper, C.Ped. (Chair)

Dennis W. Dillard, C.Ped., RTO

Gordon A. Rabing, C.Ped.

Brett R. Richey, C.Ped.

Ancillary Assistive Devices Accreditation Subcommittee

Jeff Mastej, CHC

Jason L. Bradshaw, CO

Carol Grettum, CP, C.Ped., FAAOP

Professional Credentialing Committee

Carol J. Hentges, CO (Chair)

Donald D. Virostek, CPO

Jonathan D. Day, CPO

Timothy E. Miller, CPO

Amy V. Yates, CPO

Application Review Committee

Amy V. Yates, CPO (Chair)

William J. Barringer, CO, FAAOP

Darlene Hall, C.Ped.

Robert S. Lin, CPO, FAAOP

Prosthetic Exam Team

Timothy E. Miller, CPO (Chair)
William D. Beiswenger, CPO, FAAOP
Christopher J. Fairman, CPO
Todd C. Allen, CPO
Jennifer T. McCarthy, CP

Prosthetic CPM Administration Team

Dennis Luse, CP
Bryant L. Gulde, CPO, FAAOP
Stephen A. Mandacina, CP, FAAOP

Orthotic Exam Team

Carol J. Hentges, CO (Chair)
Robert N. Brown, Jr., CPO, FAAOP
Kevin J. Field, CPO
Aaron J. Sorensen, CPO
Steven R. Whiteside, CO, FAAOP

Orthotic CPM Administration Team

David C. Williams, CO
Steven Q. Foy, CPO
Ted L. Hyde, CO, FAAOP

Pedorthic Exam Team

Louis N. Iannuzzi, C.Ped. (Chair)
Dennis W. Dillard, C.Ped., RTO
Darlene Hall, C.Ped.
M. Edward Hicks, Jr., CO, C.Ped.
Wayne R. Rosen, CPO, C.Ped.
Dan Ballard, C.Ped.
John P. Galbraith, C.Ped.
John M. Brest, CO, C.Ped.

Mastectomy Fitter Exam Team

Bridget S. Blue, CFm
Teresa G. Hamm, CFm
Twila L. Herring, CFm
Naomi M. Sattelberg, CFm
Donna L. Szabo, CFm
Georgette O'Brien, CFm
Lorraine M. Southworth, CFm

Therapeutic Shoe Fitter Exam Team

Steven R. Whiteside, CO, FAAOP (Chair)
Michael J. Allen, CPO, FAAOP
William J. Barringer, CO, FAAOP
William D. Beiswenger, CPO, FAAOP
Stephen B. Fletcher, CPO

Technician Exam Team

Jonathan D. Day, CPO (Chair)
Robert S. Carlile, RTPO
Edwin B. Hassler, III, CPO
David C. Williams, CO

Scope of Practice Committee

Rick G. Parr, CPO, FAAOP (Chair)
Michael J. Allen, CPO, FAAOP
William J. Barringer, CO, FAAOP
Michael D. Brncick, CPO
Theodore J. Colaizzi, C.Ped., CFo
Donald D. Doty, Jr., CPO
Stephen B. Fletcher, CPO
Dennis J. Janisse, C.Ped.
John H. Reynolds, CPO
Michelangelo Scafidi, C.Ped., CFo
Steven R. Whiteside, CO, FAAOP

Public Relations and Marketing Committee

Russell Hornfisher (Chair, Public Member)
John M. Kenney, CPO, FAAOP
Frank H. Bostock, CO, FAAOP
Shane Hayes, C.Ped.
Elizabeth Mansfield (Public Member)
Aaron J. Sorensen, CPO

Continuing Education Committee

Deanna J. Fish, CPO (Chair)
Todd F. Anderson, CP, FAAOP
Cheryl Hood, CPO
Stephen A. Mandacina, CP, FAAOP
Bill Meanwell, C.Ped.
Wayne R. Rosen, CPO, C.Ped.
Randall Rowland, CO

Professional Credentialing Report

The official integration of the Board of Certification in Pedorthics (BCP) into ABC in 2007 and the implementation of the exam requirement for the Certified Fitter-therapeutic shoes credential in 2008 provided an increase in the number of examination candidates for the professional credentialing department. ABC continues to offer three examination cycles throughout the year in May, August and November.

ABC's orthotic and prosthetic Clinical Patient Management (CPM) exams continue to be administered in person, bi-annually and in 2008, the exams were given in Chicago and Dallas. These exams allow for assessment of the practitioner's abilities through a series of clinical patient management tasks utilizing patient models.

In 2008, a total of 374 individuals successfully completed the requirements to become ABC Certified Orthotists, Prosthetists or Pedorthists. The following chart shows the breakdown by credential as well as a comparison with 2007.

Credential	2007	2008
Certified Orthotist (CO)	90	72
Certified Prosthetist (CP)	63	67
Certified Prosthetist/Orthotist (CPO)	68	66
Certified Pedorthist (C.Ped.)	81	169
Total	302	374

In 2008, 493 individuals successfully completed the requirements to become ABC Certified Fitters. The following chart shows the breakdown by credential as well as a comparison with 2007.

Credential	2007	2008
Certified Fitter-orthotics (CFo)	65	151
Certified Fitter-mastectomy (CFm)	70	271
Certified Fitter-orthotic/mastectomy (CFom)	10	10
Certified Fitter-therapeutic shoes (CFts)	293*	61
Total	438	493

*individuals were not required to take the ABC examination

The Registered Technician examinations continue to be administered bi-annually, with a total of 36 individuals awarded the credential. The following chart shows the breakdown by credential as well as a comparison with 2007.

Credential	2007	2008
Registered Technician-Orthotics (RTO)	11	12
Registered Technician-Prosthetics (RTP)	17	13
Registered Technician-Prosthetics/Orthotics (RTPO)	13	11
Total	41	36

In 2008, the professional credentialing committees met bi-annually to focus on exam item development to maintain ABC's mission. In addition, the technician exam committee began work on a new technician exam format scheduled to be administered in May 2010.

ABC's professional credentialing programs continue to be driven by dedicated volunteers who make up 12 committees and exam teams. Behind each credentialing program are numerous ABC certified professionals who devote significant time and effort to developing certification policies, program advances and the exams themselves. The continued success of ABC's credentialing programs is truly a testament to their dedication.

Examination Statistics: 2008 Passing Rates

In 2008, ABC examined a total of 2,215 individuals. The following charts summarize the results of the 2008 exam cycle.

Written and Simulation Exams

Exam	2008
	Percent Passed
Written Orthotic Exam	80%
Written Prosthetic Exam	81%
Orthotic Written Simulation	75%
Prosthetic Written Simulation	76%
Pedorthic Written Exam	36%
Orthotic Fitter Exam	61%
Mastectomy Fitter Exam	91%
Therapeutic Shoe Fitter Exam	31%

Clinical Patient Management Exams

	Dec 2007/Jan 2008	June 2008
	Percent Passed	
Orthotics	87%	79%
Prosthetics	76%	72%

Technician Exams

	May 2008	October 2008
	Percent Passed	
Prosthetic Technician	82%	85%
Orthotic Technician	62%	67%

ABC would like to thank

University of Texas-Southwestern Medical Center
Northwestern University
Spokane Falls Community College
Century College

for hosting the 2008 CPM and technician exams.

"It is through the generous support of our volunteers that ABC is able to consistently present candidates with contemporary, relevant and thorough exams. These caring professionals are the backbone of the exam process and their contribution is vital to the success of each of the exams."

Michael J. Allen, CPO, FAAOP
2008 ABC Board President

Facility Accreditation Report

The Facility Accreditation Program experienced an unprecedented year in 2008. With the combination of an intense public education/awareness campaign and the highest volume of applications ever recorded, ABC facility accreditation experienced significant growth.

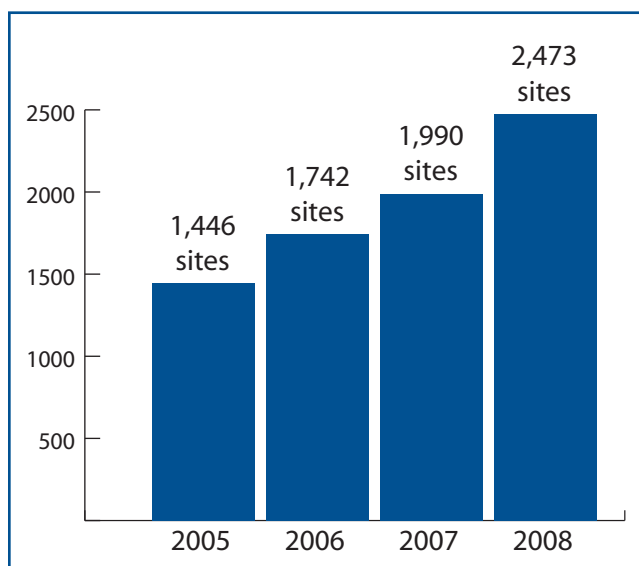
Working closely with the marketing department, ABC made a concerted effort to participate in programming at the state level for both AOPA and AAOP. These opportunities allowed us to educate practitioners about the Medicare requirements and the changes to the accreditation program.

The steady increase in demand was not unexpected. The Facility Accreditation Department has worked hard to increase accreditation demand and to prepare for the additional workload. With investment in and streamlining of our web-based processes, we have been able to gain added efficiency. Additionally, we focused on the training and strengthening of our cadre of facility surveyors.

New and Renewal Applications

	2007	2008
New facility accreditation applications	522	633
Primary location renewals	330	551
Affiliate location renewals	56	221
Total	908	1,405

Facility Accreditation Growth



“We believe ABC accreditation affords our company the highest standard available that is recognized by payers.”

Jim Alaimo, CPO
VP Clinical Services
Benchmark Orthotics and Prosthetics
Exton, PA

Continuing Education Report

In 2008, ABC began awarding discipline specific credits to pre-approved Category I programs. Approved by the Board of Directors in February, sponsors began receiving notifications on which individuals certified in specific disciplines by ABC would be eligible for full Category I credits.

In July, this policy was amended to approve awarding Category II credits to those individuals participating in continuing education not specifically related to their ABC credential or within their ABC Scope of Practice. With a limit of Category II credits that can be applicable toward a credentials renewal, ABC is able to ensure that the majority of the credits earned are discipline appropriate.

	2007	2008	Percent Change
Unique Category I Courses Approved	460	432	-6.1%
Total Category I Courses	1,500	1,489	-.07%
Category II Applications Processed	1,465	2,522	72.2%
Online/At Home Courses Processed	3,152	3,821	21.2%

Participation in distance learning courses continued to increase in 2008. The following are the programs with the highest attendance.

JPO 20-1A: Pseudoaneurysm Causing Residual Limb Pain in TT

JPO 20-2A: Accuracy and Reliability of a System for the Digital Capture of Infant Head Shapes in the Treatment of Cranial Deformities

Ossur: Miami J Collar CD

Otto Bock: Harmony Recertification Course

JPO 19-4A: Quantifying the Spring-like Properties of AFO's

Programs	
214	Approved for specific credentials
56	Content relevant to all credentials
78	Orthotics specific
43	Prosthetics specific
27	Orthotics and prosthetics specific
46	Pedorthics specific
6	Mastectomy fitter specific

Listed below is a breakdown of all certification and registration designations that expired on December 31, 2008. The data analysis indicates, by certification/registration type, those who met the requirements of Mandatory Continuing Education. Also included in the analysis is the number that were placed on probation and the total certification/registrations that were revoked.

Credential Type	In Good Standing	Renewed	On Probation	Revoked (MCE)
Practitioner (CO, CP or CPO)	5,088	434	29	15
Certified Pedorthist (C.Ped.)	2,356	125	49	5
Registered Technician (RTP, RTO or RTPO)	577	86	19	41
Registered Assistant (RPA, ROA or RPOA)	121			
Certified Fitter—orthotics (CFo)	1,385	390	165	
Certified Fitter—mastectomy (CFm)	1,151	201	32	
Certified Fitter—orthotics/mastectomy (CFom)	338	130	43	
Certified Fitter—therapeutic shoes (CFts)	575			

Marketing, Public Relations & Outreach

"I am proud to be part of ABC's outreach to the consumer community through my participation in various groups. My participation and involvement with the Amputee Coalition of America and ABC's support of this group has been a valuable tool in helping patient care groups understand the expertise that ABC certified practitioners bring to the profession."

Thomas F. Coakley

Vice President for Administrative Operations

St. Lawrence University

ABC Board Public Member

The 2008 marketing and public relations efforts centered on supporting the growth of ABC's certification and accreditation programs, communicating the importance of ABC standards inside and outside the profession as well as working with consumer organizations.

Effective communication to the profession is a central part of ABC's marketing efforts. Our exhibiting presence at industry events continued in 2008, with members of the board of directors, volunteers and staff participating in national, regional and state meetings.

Public outreach has become an increasingly important organizational goal. ABC continues to work with organizations such as the Amputee Coalition of America (ACA) and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) to promote consumer issues and the visibility of the profession. Our two public advocates on the board, Tom Coakley and Dr. Kristi Wilson-Hill, have taken the lead in this outreach with the consumer population.

Our public relations efforts also provide outreach to third party payers and the general public. For example, the *ABC Registry & Reference Guide* serves as a resource not only for orthotic and prosthetic professionals, but also for case managers, allied healthcare providers, referral sources and the patient community.

In addition to the printed *Registry*, ABC provides online resources for groups important to the profession at the website oandpcare.org. This site is designed for consumers, referral sources and other allied health professionals, and includes information on selecting the right practitioner, a glossary of orthotic and prosthetic terms and updates from CMS that will impact payers and patients.

Professional Discipline Report

ABC's Professional Discipline Committee continues to promote professionalism and ethical conduct through enforcement of the *ABC Code of Professional Responsibility & Rules and Procedures*.

In fulfilling its central responsibilities, the committee reviews matters alleging violations of the *Code* involving general misconduct, criminal convictions and consumer dissatisfaction. The committee diligently reviews each matter and renders decisions based on the facts discovered.

The following individuals were sanctioned by the committee in 2008:

Greg Cross, Revocation of CFo credential, January

David Yates, 3-Year suspension of CPO status, July

Gustavo Smith, Revocation of CFo credential, August

Kendal Carpenter, CPO, Placed on probation, September

Thomas Kopske, Indefinite suspension of CO status, November

In addition, ABC actively promotes and protects its trademarked credentials. Cease and desist orders were issued to all individuals or organizations of whom ABC was informed were improperly representing ABC certification and accreditation titles.

"The Professional Discipline program is vital to the mission of ABC. It assures certified individuals as well as the public that the ethical conduct of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic professionals is an integral part of the profession."

Steven B. Fletcher, CPO

ABC Director, Clinical Resources

Statement of Financial Position

November 30, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,414,168	\$3,394,470
Due from affiliate organizations	—	40,632
Accounts receivable, net	29,338	66,347
Prepaid expenses and other assets	53,889	20,574
Reserve fund investments	3,291,488	4,328,447
Property and equipment, net	233,086	293,667
Total assets	\$8,021,969	\$8,144,137
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable	\$267,212	\$199,142
Accrued payroll and related benefits	63,950	64,221
Due to affiliate organizations	16,255	—
Deferred rent	66,931	87,314
Deferred fees	2,132,323	2,351,097
Deferred examination fees	126,000	117,000
Negative goodwill	471,429	483,807
Note payable	—	44,352
Total liabilities	\$3,144,100	\$3,346,933
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	4,877,869	4,797,204
Total liabilities and net assets	\$8,021,969	\$8,144,137