

ProLab Orthotics Leading the Way with Evidence-Based Medicine



By Vicki Avila

ProLab Orthotics is more than an orthotic lab; it is an integral part of the podiatric community.

Established in 1989 in response to the need for a high-quality orthotic lab, ProLab took the lead in the industry by integrating evidence-based research into orthotic design. Under the leadership of Paul R. Scherer, DPM, the company pioneered many innovations including new technologies, manufacturing techniques, and clinical consultation services with a team of podiatrists. Today, it continues to innovate, educate, and raise the bar of excellence in podiatry, while consistently delivering the highest quality products.

State-of-the-Art Facility

From humble beginnings in a small South San Francisco building, the company has grown into a state-of-the-art facility in Napa, California, where it continues to make advancements, including integrating digital foot imaging technology and adding the latest advanced manufacturing technology for improved processes and efficiencies. The lab is BAPFOL accredited and was designed and built specifically for orthotic production. Staying true to its commitment to education, the facility includes a classroom for continuing education seminars.

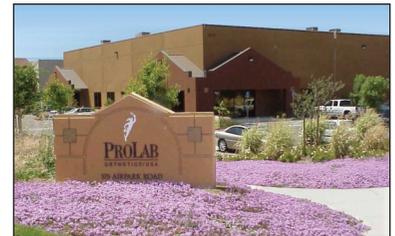
orthotic production. The company uses evidence-based research in the design of all custom and prefabricated products, resulting in excellent clinical outcomes for patients.

“We constantly review the current research literature for new advances in orthotic therapy,” explains Paul R. Scherer, DPM and CEO. “Staying current is key to successful orthotic therapy and we share the research findings with our clients through our medical consultations, E-Journal summaries, and extensive online services.”

Through significant research, ProLab was the first to identify the need for a paradigm shift in orthotic therapy. By incorporating evidence-based research, it designed Pathology Specific Orthoses™ to change the particular pathomechanics of various diagnoses, resulting in superior outcomes.

ProLab manufactures truly custom orthoses from plaster casts or scanned images. Each cast or image is fully corrected in a CAD/CAM system and made to the exact prescription specifications of the doctor. Podiatrists are available to consult with doctors to troubleshoot challenging pathologies, or for guidance in writing effective prescriptions. ProLab’s services reflect the same high standards as its products. All departments work together to ensure that client needs are met and expectations are exceeded.

The evidence-based design of P3 functional prefabs and Kiddythotics™ include functional corrections that were previously available only in custom orthoses.



Education

ProLab supports its clients through ongoing professional education, online educational services, and by providing the opportunity to discuss their patients’ orthotic needs with medical consultants. This forward-thinking approach to partnering with practitioners ensures excellence in podiatric medicine. The company also reaches out to the podiatric community with unrestricted educational grants, speaker sponsorships, scientific research, and with an endowed student scholarship. It supports the APMA as a corporate member and serves on the Corporate Advisory Board for the American Podiatric Medical Student Association (APMSA) where it was awarded the “Company of the Year” honor. In October 2011, ProLab is proud to sponsor the inaugural *Learning in the Vineyards: Science of the Foot Seminar* in cooperation with Western University of Health Sciences, College of Podiatric Medicine.

For more information, call 800.477.6522 or visit www.prolaborthotics.com, or circle #180 on the reader service card. Doctors and students are welcome to tour the lab by appointment.

PROLAB
ORTHOTICS
Evidence-Based
Medicine™

**Achieve
Extraordinary
Outcomes**



Our team of leading podiatrists integrate the best current research (EBM) into orthotic design and medical case consultations.

800.477.6522
WWW.PROLABORTHOTICS.COM
*References available

The Team

The multidisciplinary ProLab team encompasses: podiatry, education, kinesiology, technology, and mechanical engineering. This synergistic team spawns new ideas and generates innovative solutions. The ProLab Medical Consultant team is composed of distinguished podiatrists who are experts in biomechanics with fellowship training and extensive clinical experience. Their credentials include faculty positions at leading podiatric schools, published articles in peer-reviewed journals, and faculty at scientific conferences. Dr. Scherer’s new book, *Recent Advances in Orthotic Therapy*, can be found in offices and classrooms around the world.

Products

The ProLab Team strives for excellence on every level of

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