

## EliteVT

EliteVT combines an energy-storing-and-return prosthetic foot with a VT adaptor. It uses e-carbon foot springs to efficiently absorb energy during weight bearing and return it during off-loading, in order to aid propulsion. The C-shaped heel spring allows >10mm of vertical compliance for shock-absorption and maximises the energy return. The split toe spring, in combination with the separate heel spring, permits a tripod design for exceptional ground compliance. The VT element adds axial and torsional compliance, interface pressures and shear forces at the socket-residuum interface are reduced, protecting the skin of the residual limb and allowing the user to achieve an enhanced performance without fear of injury.

### Clinical Outcomes using e-carbon feet

Much research confirms the substantial equivalency of all energy-storing and return feet, including Blatchford e-carbon feet<sup>1</sup>.

#### With respect to **SAFETY**

- High mean radius of curvature for Esprit-style e-carbon feet<sup>2</sup>: “The larger the radius of curvature, the more stable is the foot”

#### With respect to **MOBILITY**

- Allow variable running speeds<sup>3</sup>
- Increased self-selected walking speed<sup>4</sup>
- Elite-style e-carbon feet (L code VL5987) or VT units demonstrate the second highest mobility levels, behind only microprocessor feet<sup>5</sup>

#### With respect to **LOADING SYMMETRY**

- Users demonstrate confidence in prosthetic loading during high activity<sup>6</sup>
- Improved prosthetic push-off work compared to SACH feet<sup>7</sup>
- Increased prosthetic positive work done<sup>4</sup>

#### With respect to **USER SATISFACTION**

- High degree of user satisfaction, particularly with high activity users<sup>8</sup>

### Improvements in Clinical Outcomes using shock-absorbing pylon/torque absorber compared to rigid pylon

#### Improvement in **SAFETY**

- Reduced back pain during twisting movements e.g. golf swings<sup>9</sup>

#### Improvement in **MOBILITY**

- Reduced compensatory knee flexion at loading response<sup>10</sup>
- No reduction in step activity<sup>11</sup>
- Blatchford torsion adaptors match the able-bodied rotational range<sup>12</sup>

**Improvement in RESIDUAL LIMB HEALTH**

- Reduced loading rate on prosthetic limb<sup>13</sup>, particularly at fast walking speeds<sup>14</sup>
- Users feel less pressure on their residual limb<sup>15</sup>

**Improvement in USER SATISFACTION**

- Patient preference, citing improved comfort, smoothness of gait and easier stairs descent<sup>13</sup>

**References**

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