

# ORTHOPEDIC SHOE TECHNOLOGY

2017 – 2018 HANOI, VIETNAM  
**18-MONTH  
INTERNATIONAL  
TRAINING  
COURSE**  
START SEPTEMBER 05<sup>th</sup> 2017

**FACTSHEET**

**APPLY  
NOW!**

Photo: VietCot



Vietnamese Training Centre for  
Orthopedic Technologists - a Faculty of  
the University of Labor and Social Affairs



University of Applied Sciences  
in The Netherlands

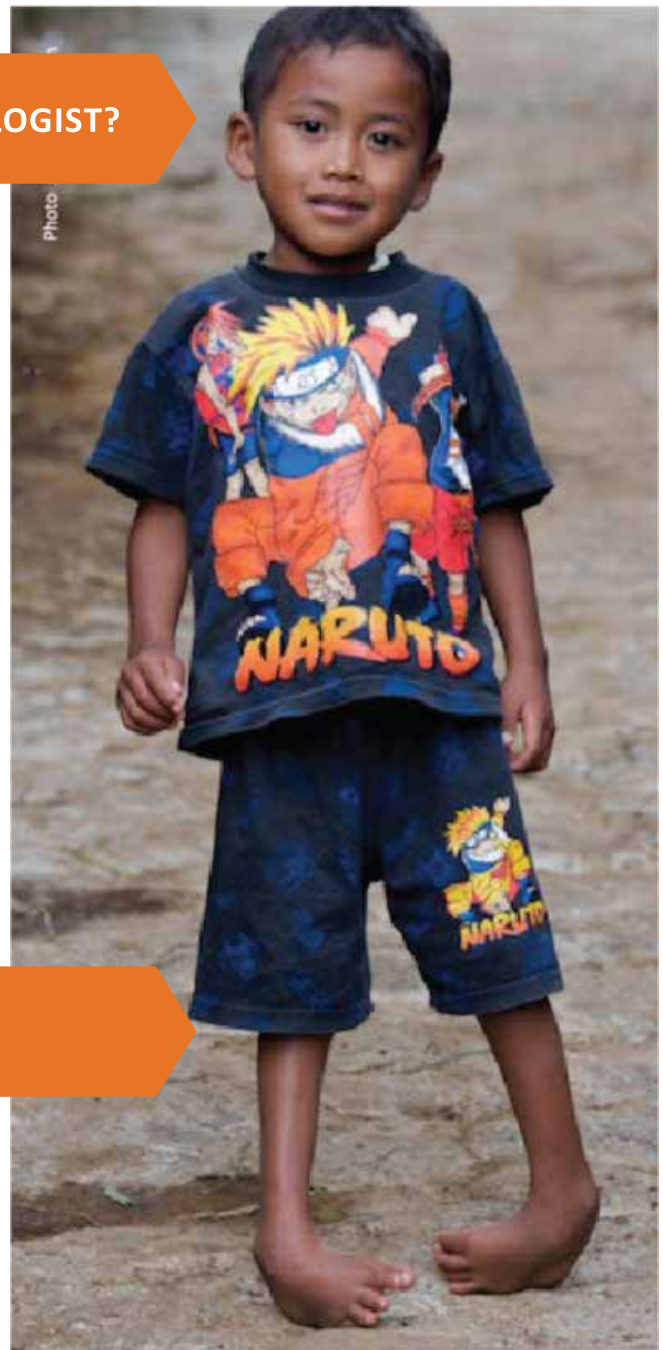
- Curriculum development and training support -

## WHAT IS AN ORTHOPEDIC SHOE TECHNOLOGIST?

An orthopedic shoe technologist (OST) is a professional who measures, designs, manufactures and fits orthopedic footwear solutions for people with congenital or acquired foot problems. The aim is to increase function and mobility and to prevent further deformity or loss of function of the foot. Orthopedic shoe solutions range from relatively simple solutions such as insoles to more complex orthopedic designs such as specialized shoes with orthopedic support, correction and function improvement. To provide these different solutions an orthopedic shoe technologist possesses good interpersonal communication skills and knows everything about the function of the foot and lower limb, footwear materials and production techniques.

## A NEW COURSE TO BECOME ORTHOPEDIC SHOE TECHNOLOGIST

There is a great need for professional orthopedic shoe technologists worldwide, in particular in many Asian countries. With a grant from the Dutch National Postcode Lottery for the project "These Shoes are made for Walking", Dutch organizations – Netherlands Leprosy Relief and Liliane Foundation together with Fontys University in the Netherlands – have set up an international training course in the Vietcot Centre in Vietnam. This international training course has a duration of 18 months.



Slamet from Indonesia was born with two club feet. He can benefit from an operation to reposition his feet, but will then still not be able to walk normal unless he receives the orthopedic shoes that he needs.



## THE COURSE CURRICULUM

Students will become OST professional in consecutive steps: know – know how – show how – demonstrate. The curriculum consists of 50% theory (theory modules) and 50% practice (practical learning).

Fontys University of Applied Sciences has developed the international curriculum for

this training course and provides technical and teaching support for Vietcot.

The course is completely in English.

International course accreditation is currently sought from the International Association for Orthopedic Footwear.

## COURSE IN HEADLINES

### Block 1 & 2:

#### Artisanal shoemaker

- Become a competent maker of shoes for people without foot related mobility problems
- Acquire knowledge of the lower extremities (from hip to toes)

### Block 3 & 4:

#### Orthopedic shoe technologist

- Become a competent orthopedic shoe technologist for people with foot related mobility problems
- Acquire knowledge of typical diseases and anatomic problems leading to mobility problems

### Block 5 & 6:

#### Entrepreneurial orthopedic shoe technologist

- Profile/specialize in specific diseases/mobility issues of the student's country of origin
- Final apprenticeship in practice, final work and entrepreneurial skills

## COURSE FEE

The total course fee is 18,000 USD and covers: tuition and registration, all books and learning materials, uniforms, seminars, clinical placement, graduation, medical insurance, sports activities, accommodation, monthly stipend for meals and visa costs. It does not include the airline tickets.

Both Netherlands Leprosy Relief and Liliane Foundation are committed to make the training course a success and have a limited number of (partial or full) scholarships (2 - 4 per training course) available for trainees from low resource organizations that cannot meet full training costs



## ARE YOU INTERESTED?

### ENROLLMENT CRITERIA

If you wish to follow this course, then you should meet the following criteria:

- have finished at least lower secondary school education with relevant experience in shoemaking or orthopedic technology, or;
- have finished at least higher secondary school education without previous working experience;
- have a good understanding and command of English; a Skype interview will be part of the selection procedure;
- be younger than 36 years.

In addition, candidates should be ambitious and willing to stay abroad for 18 months.

We consider it important that candidates have fine manual motor skills and enjoy working with their hands.

Candidates should be able and willing to learn in an international environment and be committed to work with persons with disability or socially labeled.

**PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY OR WHO IN ANY OTHER WAY ARE DISADVANTAGED, BUT CONSIDER THEMSELVES ABLE AND MOTIVATED TO BECOME AN ORTHOPEDIC SHOE TECHNOLOGIST, ARE IN PARTICULAR INVITED TO APPLY**



Club feet can be treated at an early age with Ponseti manipulative technique and special shoes.



People with partial foot amputation, for example due to leprosy, are also in need of special orthopedic shoes.

## HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

In case you wish to apply send the following list of documents in English by email to Vietcot, attention of Ms. Nguyen Thi Dung [dzung.vietcot@gmail.com](mailto:dzung.vietcot@gmail.com)

1. A one-page letter describing your motivation to follow the course
2. Copies of your diplomas and grade reports
3. An up-to-date curriculum vitae and a list of three relevant referees
4. Results of any English Language Test done previously

If the organization you work for wishes to apply for a (partial or full) scholarship, the organization is required to provide also a one-page motivation letter explaining the need and justification for a partial or full scholarship.

In case too many organizations apply, priority for the scholarships will go to the Southeast Asian countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.

To apply for the fourth cohort your application should be submitted before 1st of June 2017. The skype interviews will take place in June. Candidates are advised to apply as early as possible!



The first cohort already started in June 2014.



## TRAINING CENTRE

### Contact information

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[www.theseshoesaremadeforwalking.org](http://www.theseshoesaremadeforwalking.org)



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Vietnamese Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists



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