

Hack For Access: Event

ThrivAbility's Hack for Access during **Move United's** education at the **National Ability Center**.

In **2021**, the **Adaptive Sports Movement** (now **ThrivAbility**) hosted a roundtable, at **Move United's** education conference with a mission to **raise awareness** and **accelerate innovation** around **active mobility** and **adaptive sports**.

In **2025** we pushed beyond talking, to **hosting a full-fledged Hack For Access**, aggregating cutting edge **Engineers, Prosthetists, Physical Therapists**, and **Adaptive Athletes/Paralympians** to **break their siloes** and **accelerate innovation**.

The process and results were exhilarating. We proved that **empathy is the driver of innovation**, **Progress requires cooperation** of expertise, and that **end users** must be at the table. You can't make assumptions to solve human issues.

The event resulted in novel solutions, new cross-industry alliances and lasting relationships.

Hack For Access: Partners

Partners included the National Ability Center, Challenged Athletes Foundation, Hopper Running Blades, Move Untired, Salomon Sport, Utah University bioengineering, So Every Body Can Move/Amputee Coalition, Hanger Prosthetics



Our Speakers

Susan Pinkwater, Founder of ThrivAbility





Nicole Ver Kuilen, Founder, Forrest Stump & Athlete Advocate

So Every Body Can Move – Leading the charge in disability rights, working toward nationwide access to prosthetic and orthotic care for sports by the 2028 Paralympics.

<https://soeverybodycanmove.org/>



Patrick Leik, Para Team Manager & Lead Adaptive Designer, Salomon Sport

Salomon Adaptive Sports – The Salomon Adaptive Project is an initiative focused on making mountain sports more inclusive by designing specialized, affordable, and high-performance prosthetics for amputees.

<https://www.amersports.com/newsroom/salomon-adaptive-project-changing-the-perception-on-disabilities-through-design/>



Hugo Roche, CEO, Hopper

Hopper Sports Blade – A revolutionary, affordable running blade born from a partnership between Salomon, Airbus, and Hopper.

<https://hopper-accessibility.com/nos-produits-en/>

Teams At Work

Challenge: Multi-terrain running blade

How to enable a running blade to tackle multiple terrains for a triathlete or for a person with

Only 1 activity leg to use for multiple activities.



Team 1



Video



Challenge: A better climbing foot

Team 2.

How to improve upon the current adaptive climbing foot for a competitive climber seeking better performance



Team 2



Challenge: Adjustable height wheelchair

Team 3.

How to enable a wheelchair to sit at multiple heights. This particular person wants to play pool (1 height) and order his own drink at the bar (different height)



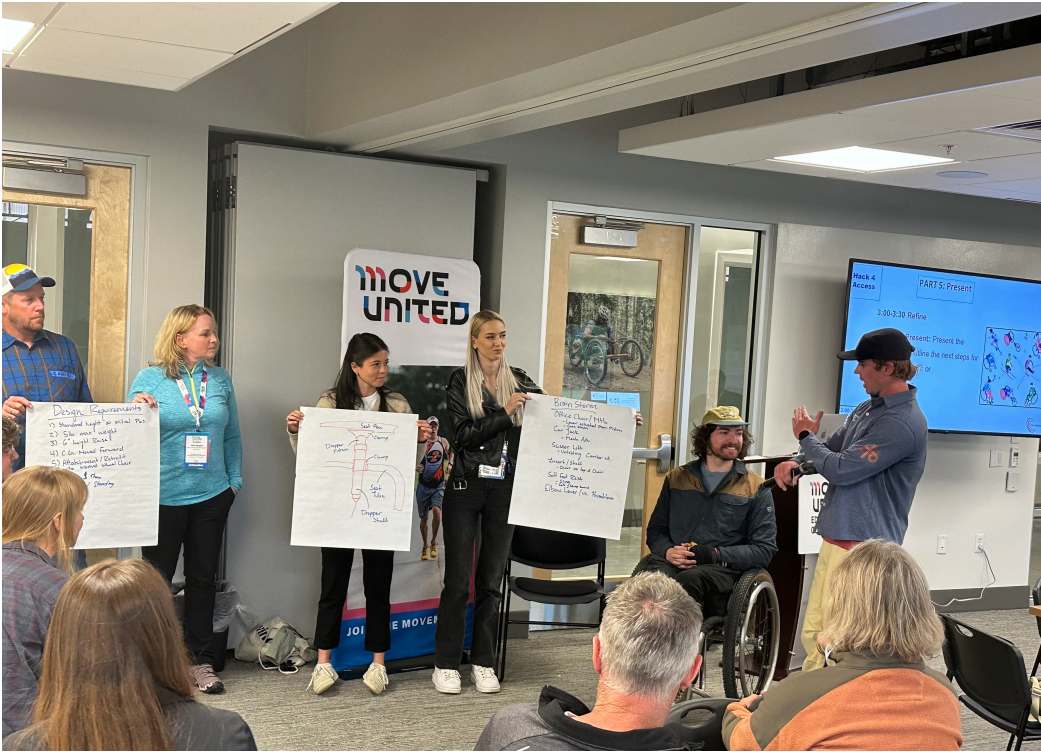
Team 3



Team Presentations

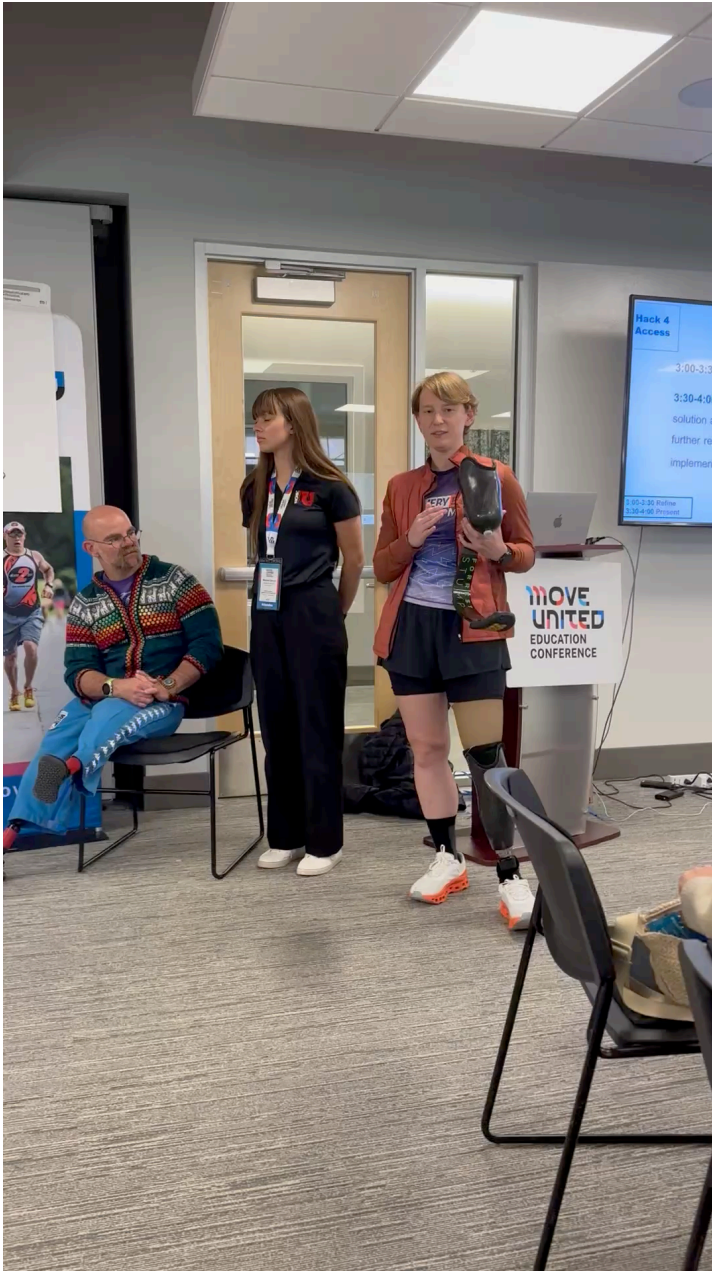
Video

Team 3



Team 1





Team 1 presentation video

