

# The World Veterinary Orthopaedic Congress: "Synergy in Action"

## Syn-er-gy (noun) –

*the interaction of two elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements; the working together of two things to produce a result greater than the sum of their individual effects.\**

Synergy describes what occurs when two professional veterinary societies from different continents join together to organize an orthopaedic congress for veterinarians from around the world. Next year, on March 1-8, 2014 we will see that synergy in action once again during the 4<sup>th</sup> World Veterinary Orthopaedic Congress (WVOC). From its inception, the World Veterinary Orthopaedic Congress has embodied the definition and spirit of synergy—synergy created from combining ideas, surgical techniques and cutting edge research from experts around the world in small animal, equine and human orthopaedics.

## History of WVOC

The WVOC has a rich history founded in a spirit of collaboration. Prof. Geoff Sumner-Smith, the patron and Founding Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Veterinary and Comparative Orthopaedics and Traumatology, VCOT, was the first to bring the idea of a World Orthopaedic Congress to two veterinary orthopaedic societies – the European Society of Veterinary Orthopaedics and Traumatology (ESVOT) and the Veterinary Orthopedic Society (VOS). The Boards of Directors of VOS and ESVOT enthusiastically adopted his concept and formed the first World Veterinary Orthopaedic Congress planning committee.

To promote international collaboration, ESVOT and VOS agreed to host the event

every 4 years on alternating continents. The inaugural WVOC was held in Munich, Germany in 2002. The high standard of the scientific programme, the internationally renowned speakers and the wonderful culture and beauty of Munich set the bar very high for all future meetings...and the tradition has continued.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> WVOC was held at Keystone, Colorado, USA in 2006 in combination with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual VOS Meeting. Once again, the Congress was a huge success, thanks to the combined efforts of the ESVOT and VOS WVOC planning committee and the excellent scientific programme. In keeping with the VOS tradition, time for skiing and riding was built into the schedule and the spring snow brought a large amount of fresh powder for everyone to enjoy. The 3<sup>rd</sup> WVOC was held in Bologna, Italy in 2010. Congress attendees enjoyed an exciting cutting-edge scientific programme, small animal and large animal wet labs, unforgettable social events, food and culture. It was the most well-attended WVOC to date and increased the visibility of the WVOC world-wide.

## WVOC 2014

The VOS/ESVOT synergy continues with the 4<sup>th</sup> WVOC, scheduled for March 1-8, 2014 at the Beaver Run Resort and Conference Center in Breckenridge, Colorado, USA. WVOC 2014 will be another event to remember. Breckenridge offers world class skiing and riding, snowmobiling, dog sledding, distinctive shopping, an award-winning arts district, and fine cuisine. The Scientific Programme has been expanded from the 2006 WVOC format to reflect the enormous success of the WVOC 2010 in Bologna.

The 2014 Scientific Programme includes scientific sessions, keynote speakers and wet labs in Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (in collaboration with the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine



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\* Definition from [www.Wikipedia.org](http://www.Wikipedia.org) and [www.Dictionary.com](http://www.Dictionary.com)

and Rehabilitation), Regenerative Medicine (in collaboration with the North American Veterinary Regenerative Medicine Association), Limb Deformity, Joint and Cartilage, Neurosurgery, Trauma, Challenges in Bone Healing, Radiology and Advanced Imaging and more.

Time for skiing, riding and snow sports will also be built into the programme. The social programme will feature a Welcome Reception, Comedy Night, Casino Night, the WVOC International Downhill Ski Race and the festive WVOC Gala Evening.

Breckenridge, CO is located 145 km from the Denver International Airport. Shuttle transport to the resort will be readily available. Travel arrangements can be made through Penny Smith, Rocky Mountain Tours, Penny.smith@ski.com Phone: 1-(800) 233 2300.

"Synergy in Action" defines the spirit and history of the WVOC. The exchange of knowledge between experts from different continents and the camaraderie between attendees from all over the globe is unmatched anywhere in veterinary medicine. We hope you will join us in Breckenridge, CO, USA from March 1-8 2014, and become a part of the synergy, friendship and rich collaborative tradition that defines the WVOC. Registration for the 4<sup>th</sup> WVOC will be opening soon. Please visit [www.vosdvm.org](http://www.vosdvm.org) for up-to-date information on WVOC registration, abstract submission guidelines, and other important notices.



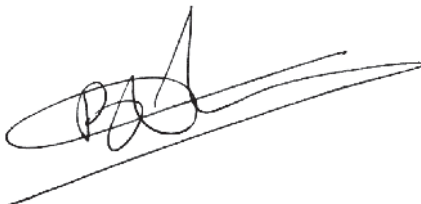
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