



AUSTRALIAN  
PARALYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

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WORKPLACE  
*Safety*  
ALLIANCE

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# Welcome

## TO THE AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE'S WORKPLACE SAFETY ALLIANCE

**In 2008-09 there were 133,485 workers' compensation claims for serious work-related injuries or illnesses. This equates to an incidence rate of 13.5 serious claims per 1000 employees.<sup>1</sup> Work related injury and illness were estimated to cost \$60.6 billion in the 2008-09 financial year.<sup>2</sup>**

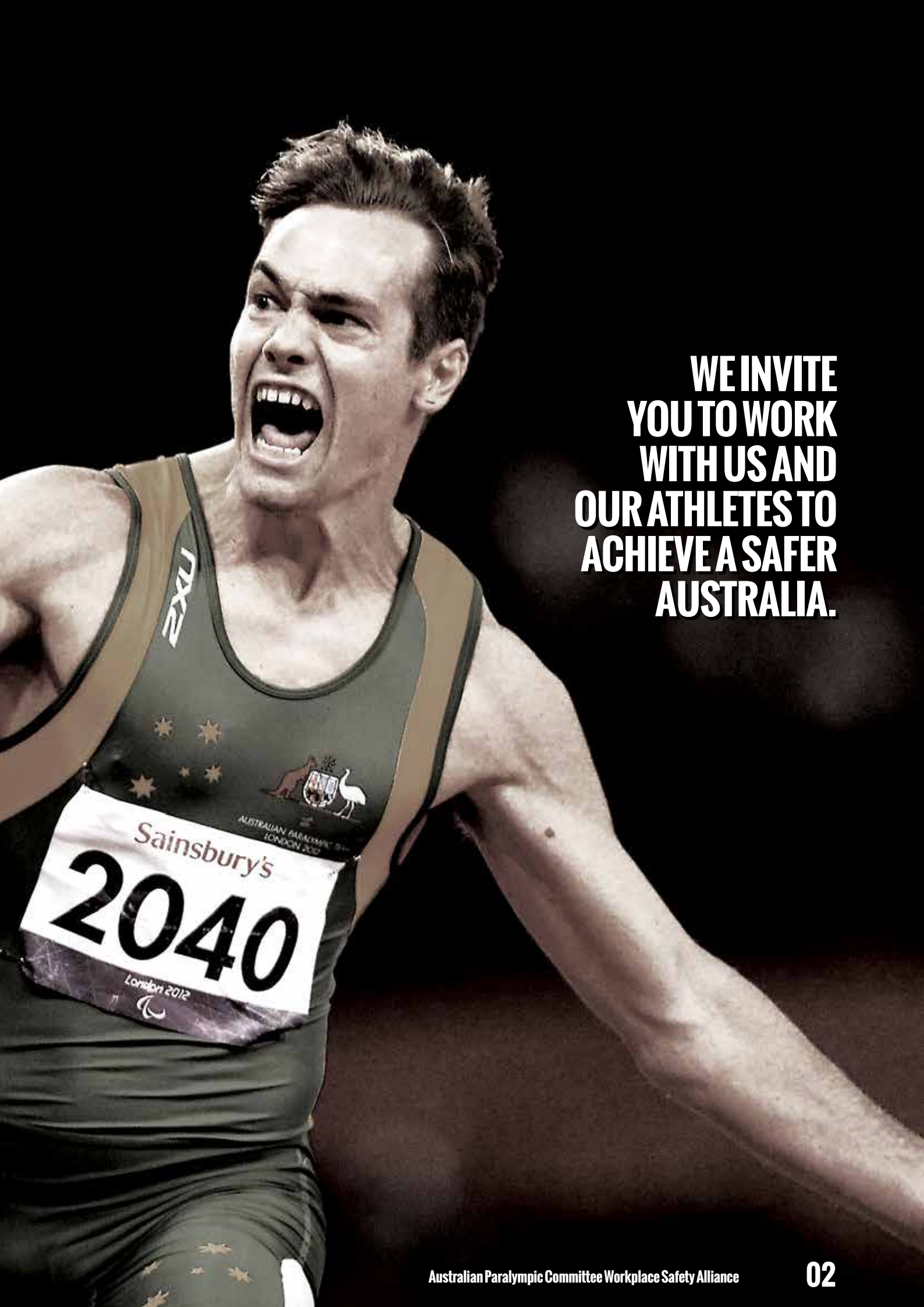
The Australian Paralympic Committee is passionate about raising awareness on the importance of workplace safety and supporting businesses on their mission to achieve incident-free workplaces.

Our Workplace Safety Alliance brings together likeminded safety-critical businesses committed to workplace safety and injury prevention, support diversity and share a passion for supporting Australian Paralympic athletes on their journey to success as world-class athletes.

**MANY OF OUR ATHLETES ARE WHERE THEY ARE TODAY BECAUSE OF A LIFE-CHANGING INCIDENT IN THE WORKPLACE AND ARE REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES OF THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING HEALTH AND SAFETY INITIATIVES AT WORK.**

They have become the face of resilience and determination and, despite suffering permanent disability, they have gone on to achieve the pinnacle of sporting success. Drawing on their own experiences of serious injury and recovery, they spread a strong and emotive message about workplace safety and injury prevention.

Through sharing their inspirational stories of despair, courage and triumph, our Paralympians are exemplary advocates for safe work practices.



**WE INVITE  
YOU TO WORK  
WITH US AND  
OUR ATHLETES TO  
ACHIEVE A SAFER  
AUSTRALIA.**

# What

## IS THE WORKPLACE SAFETY ALLIANCE?

**An initiative of the Australian Paralympic Committee, the Workplace Safety Alliance is a network of representatives from safety-critical organisations throughout Australia including mining, transport, construction and manufacturing.**

**The Alliance is ideal for organisations wishing to:**

- Connect with their employees and educate them about the safety and personal implications of not being safety aware at work and at home;
- Educate their employees about key diversity issues such as inclusiveness, workplace harassment, bullying and equal employment opportunities;
- Connect and network with likeminded professionals from similar industries across Australia; and
- Support and align with the work of the Australian Paralympic Committee to help more Australians with disabilities participate in sport and work.

**OUR VISION IS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKPLACE SAFETY AND THE NEED FOR EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS TO WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ONE ANOTHER.**





**Safety Institute  
of Australia Ltd**

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**The Australian Paralympic Committee has reinforced its commitment to health and safety awareness across Australia through a strategic partnership with one of the country's leading workplace safety advocates: the Safety Institute of Australia (SIA).**

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Boasting over 60 years' experience working with Australia's health and safety professionals, the SIA aims to develop, maintain and promote a body of knowledge that defines professional practice in Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S).

By partnering with SIA, the APC can provide our members with direct access to industry announcements, revised policies, new regulations and research.

The SIA shares our vision for achieving greater awareness of the importance of safety in the workplace and through lending its expertise, knowledge and experience to the Workplace Safety Alliance, we are working together towards ensuring every Australian is educated about the importance of safety at work and at home.

**“THE AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE WORKPLACE SAFETY ALLIANCE PLAYS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN HIGHLIGHTING THE PERSONAL IMPLICATIONS OF UNSAFE BEHAVIOURS AT WORK AND HOME. THE PARALYMPIAN'S STORY RESONATES WITH WORKERS IN MANY INDUSTRIES AND REINFORCES THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A STRONG UNDERSTANDING OF HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES.”**

Patrick Murphy - Chairman SIA

London 2012  
Paralympic Games



# Who

## ARE THE AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE?

**The Australian Paralympic Committee is responsible for preparing the Australia Paralympic Summer and Winter Teams for the Paralympic Games.**

At London 2012, we fielded 161 athletes. In Rio, we're hoping for an even bigger contingent. It's a big task. As well as directly managing a range of sports – including wheelchair rugby and boccia – we assist athletes to prepare for competition by providing funding for coaching and equipment in the lead up to the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games.

Our success at the Paralympics to date has been the product of a range of factors, including our partnerships with government, national sporting organisations and disability groups, as well as our own Paralympic Talent Search Programs, which help to identify almost a quarter of our Games teams.

Our role doesn't just revolve around our Paralympic Teams.

We believe participation in sport provides positive social and physical benefits to people with disabilities, and plays an important role in changing community perceptions of people with disabilities and encouraging more diverse communities.

Through our education and community programs, we have engaged with almost half a million school children and many more Australians about Paralympic sport and the importance of inclusion of people with disabilities.

**WE WILL INSPIRE EVERY  
AUSTRALIAN BY THE  
PARALYMPIC SPIRIT**



## **WE BELIEVE:**

- **THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO PLAY SPORT AND ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL**

## **WE VALUE:**

- **THE JOURNEY OF THE ATHLETE**
- **FAIRNESS, EQUALITY AND INTEGRITY**
- **OUR ATHLETES INSPIRING THE COMMUNITY**
- **THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN**
- **THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE**
- **OUR HISTORY**

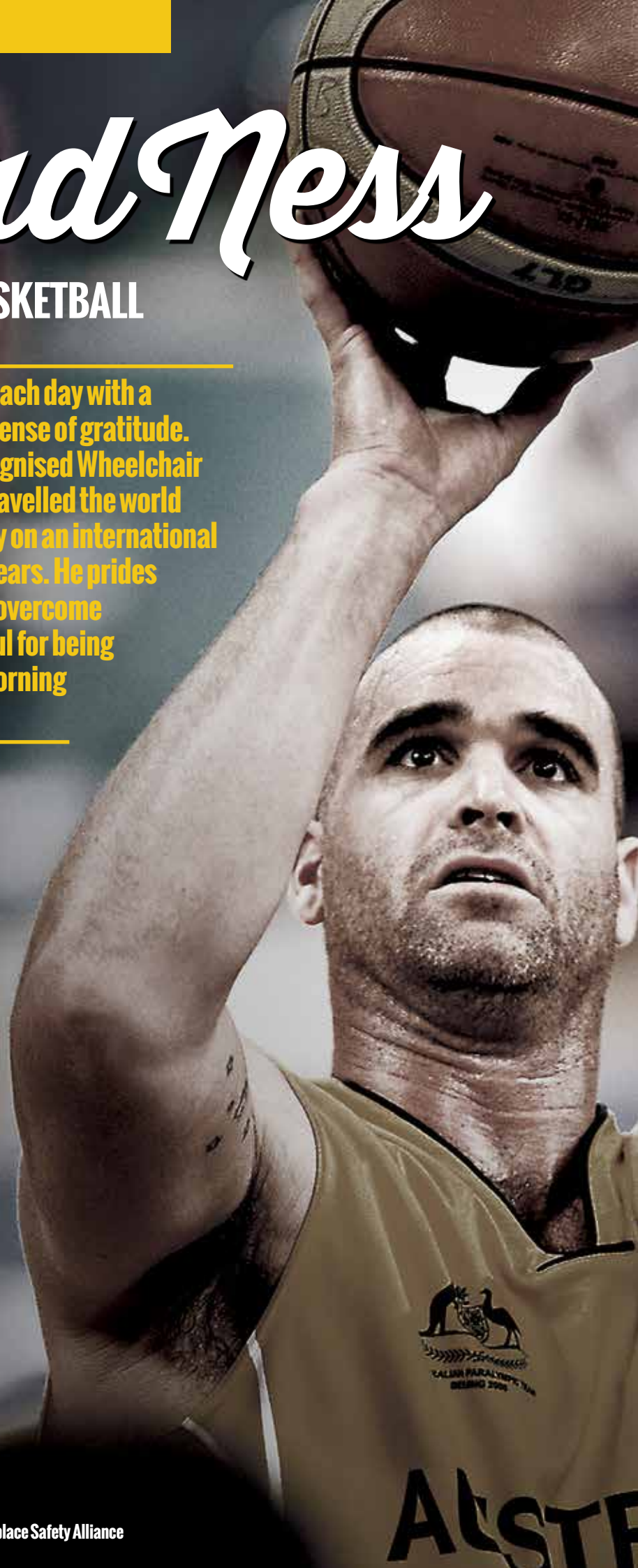
## **WE WILL:**

- **SUPPORT EVERY AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIAN TO ACHIEVE THEIR SPORTING POTENTIAL**
- **INSPIRE EVERY AUSTRALIAN BY THE PARALYMPIC SPIRIT**


# Brad Ness

## WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

**Brad Ness approaches each day with a positive attitude and a sense of gratitude. The internationally recognised Wheelchair Basketball player has travelled the world representing his country on an international stage for more than 15 years. He prides himself on his ability to overcome obstacles and is thankful for being able to wake up every morning and live a normal life.**







**“THE BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR ME WAS GETTING BACK TO WORK AND NOT LETTING THE ACCIDENT CONTROL MY LIFE. MY DREAM OF PLAYING FOOTBALL WAS GONE BUT I WAS LUCKY TO BE ALIVE AND I WASN’T GOING TO WASTE THAT.”**

Brad Ness

As a teenager, Brad was passionate about sport. During the summer, he worked as a deckhand aboard a tourist ferry which travelled between Rottnest Island and Fremantle, and during the winter he focused on training to become one of the country’s greatest AFL stars.

Two weeks after celebrating his eighteenth birthday, Brad was working on-board the Rottnest Ferry and he’d been on the clock for nearly 37 hours. As he prepared the ferry to leave the pier, a simple miscommunication between the skipper and Brad led to him losing his leg, ultimately changing the course of his life forever.

Brad spent 12 days in hospital before releasing himself on Christmas Eve to ensure he spent the holidays with his family. Over the next six months, he underwent physical and physiological rehabilitation before returning to work.

Far from destroying his sporting dreams, Brad was introduced to Wheelchair Basketball a year after his accident. In 1999 he shot to stardom when he made his debut for the Australian Rollers Wheelchair Basketball team. Since then, Brad has gone on to play at several World Championships and Paralympic Games.

As captain of the Rollers, Brad helped his team to win Paralympic gold in 2008 and silver medals in 2004 and 2008. He was also an integral part of the Rollers’ back-to-back World Championship victories in 2010 and 2014, as they became only the second nation in the sport’s history to win consecutive World titles.

# Why Join

## THE WORKPLACE SAFETY ALLIANCE?

**By becoming a member of our Workplace Safety Alliance, your organisation is also becoming part of the Australian Paralympic Committee family - ultimately helping our athletes on their journey to compete at the Paralympic Games.**

Memberships are ideal for organisations who want to shine a light on the importance of safe workplaces by drawing on the experiences of our athletes and showcasing their strength and determination to overcome life-changing injuries.

Your investment in the Workplace Safety Alliance provides a unique opportunity to:

- Align with a reputable and well regarded brand that can help you address real business issues of safety and diversity;
- Unite employees through a meaningful and tangible contribution to your safety education and training; and
- Be clearly positioned as an organisation which supports Australians and champions the uniquely Australian attributes of hard work, mateship, determination and 'having a go'.



**MEMBERSHIPS ARE IDEAL FOR ORGANISATIONS WHO WANT TO SHINE A LIGHT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFE WORKPLACES BY DRAWING ON THE EXPERIENCES OF OUR ATHLETES AND SHOWCASING THEIR STRENGTH AND DETERMINATION TO OVERCOME LIFE-CHANGING INJURIES.**



# Benefits

**OF WORKPLACE SAFETY  
ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP**

**ONCE A YEAR WE WILL ARRANGE  
FOR A PARALYMPIAN TO VISIT YOUR  
ORGANISATION TO SHARE THEIR  
EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR EMPLOYEES**

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## As an Australian Paralympic Committee Workplace Alliance member your organisation will receive a suite of benefits including:

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- Once a year we will arrange for a Paralympian to visit your organisation to share their experience with your employees<sup>3</sup>. These presentations provide real-life examples of the impact of workplace injuries on individuals, workplaces and families. Our athletes provide insights into not just the physical but the emotional and social implications of workplace injuries.
- Throughout the year, you'll receive case studies, interviews and video content for you to share with your employees in safety-related communications. Content is designed to be used across digital and traditional communications platforms (including newsletters, intranets, emails etc). Content will include both written and video material.
- You'll be invited to a range of events, organised by the Australian Paralympic Committee that will provide insight into current issues around safety and diversity. These events will range from corporate breakfasts through to experiential, Paralympic sports events that showcase our Paralympians and their abilities, whilst providing valuable networking opportunities for you and your customers.
- You'll be recognised as a valued partner of the Australian Paralympic Committee through access to a special Australian Paralympic Committee Safety Alliance Member logo, which you can use to demonstrate your organisation's commitment to safety and support of our Australian Paralympic team.
- Access to the Australian Paralympic Newsletter which includes updates on the progress of our athlete's preparations for the next Summer and Winter Paralympic Games, sport and athlete profiles, Paralympic news and reports on international competition.



# Join Today







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PARALYMPIC  
COMMITTEE  
WORKPLACE SAFETY ALLIANCE

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