

Who Is Surestep?

by Andrew Culbertson

Surestep manufactures pediatric orthoses that improve the quality of life for kids who have a variety of unique needs. Everything we do is built around making big changes in little lives.

And it all started with a father and son. Our founder, Bernie Veldman, needed braces for his son, but the only options were harsh, painful, and rigid. That wasn't acceptable. Instead, Bernie designed his own kid-friendly, dynamic solution that was both comfortable and effective. That simple idea evolved from helping just one child to helping thousands.

Surestep offers custom products that can be ordered by measurements and are covered by L Codes. To meet each child's specific needs, we offer a wide range of products:

- AFOs
- HEKO knee braces
- TLSOs
- De-Rotation straps

But we're known best for the Surestep SMO, which revolutionized orthotic management for children with hypotonia.

What Is the Surestep SMO?

The Surestep SMO is a patented device that utilizes an extremely thin and flexible plastic, unique trim lines and compression to treat pediatric flexible flatfoot. This custom SMO provides dynamic stability by allowing normal pronation and supination and does not aim to hold the foot and ankle in a rigid subtalar neutral position. It improves lower extremity alignment up the chain and facilitates gross motor skill and gait development. Rather than posting, such as with a foot orthosis or UCBL, the Surestep SMO works through circumferential compression to correct the excessive pronated position in all three planes of motion. By controlling excessive calcaneal valgus, the arch lifts into a more optimal position.

The trim lines do not extend past the toes: the medial trim line ends just proximal to the 1st metatarsal head and the lateral trim line ends just distal to the 5th metatarsal head. This helps control forefoot abduction while allowing full function of the toes and enabling the windlass mechanism to develop. This enables the child



to run, jump and play like his or her peers and also maintain 3rd rocker during gait.

Measuring and fitting is simple: just 9 measurements, scissors, a torch and sharpie are all it takes to order and fit this life-changing SMO! Find out more and see our recommended L-codes at www.surestep.net/products.

Growing kids means eventually outgrowing our traditional SMO.

That's why Surestep created additional solutions. The BigShot SMO is ideal for older kids (80+ lbs.) and adults who still need help with stability. And for inbetweeners, the BigShot Lite is perfect for kids who weigh 50-90 lbs.

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What Are Parents Saying About Surestep?

"As soon as Kogan put his first pair of Surestep SMOs on, he was a completely different child. I would definitely recommend Surestep for any child who needs help with their balance."

"Surestep was huge for Madeline. Within two days of getting her first pair of SMOs she was able to stand up and let go. It was amazing. Within a week's worth of time, she was walking."

"It's been just about a month with my daughter's new SMO's and what a month it has been! She tires less easily...she doesn't complain of pain...she falls less and most importantly she can finally run around the house with her brother and sister and not get completely left in the dust!

I am near tears...we still have a long way to go ...but for the first time we are heading in the right direction!"

How Can I Learn More?

To learn more about the exciting, innovative solutions Surestep can provide your pediatric patients, visit www.surestep.net or [click here](#). You'll find our product catalogue, fitting guides, case studies, and much more.

