

## 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 (CO), 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 covered by L Codes. To meet each child's specific needs, we offer a wide range of products:

- AFOS
- HEKO knee braces
- TLSOs
- Derotation Straps

But we're best known for the Surestep SMO, which revolutionized orthotics 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 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 at [www.surestep.net/products](http://www.surestep.net/products).

Growing kids means eventually outgrowing our traditional SMO. That's why Surestep created additional solu-

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tions. The BigShot SMO is ideal for older kids (80+ lbs.) and adults who still need help with stability. And for inbetweens, the BigShot Lite is perfect for kids who weigh 50-90 lbs.

### Not Just for Kids Anymore?

Although we'll always be a pediatric manufacturer at heart, Surestep is expanding our solutions to adults.

The first step in that direction is the Stabilizer. This innovative device is more than preventative. It restores confidence by providing the needed support and stability, while also increasing sensory input. With this assurance and the decreased risk of falling, your patients will be able to re-engage in regular day-to-day activities.

It features a:

- Low profile cuff
- Thin, carbon reinforcement for increased energy return
- Molded inner boot to prevent skin breakdown
- Shortened footplate for ease of donning

Two-day turnarounds are available by measurement.

For more information or to order, contact Surestep today 877-462-0711.

### How Can I Learn More?

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