

'Reinventing the Wheel'

A paradigm shift in the approach to the provision of appropriate wheeled mobility in less resourced settings

David Constantine MBE, Executive Officer and co-founder of Motivation Charitable Trust, speaks on reinventing the world of low-cost wheelchairs for less resourced settings.

David will explain how, after becoming a quadriplegic in 1982, his life took a different direction. He decided against a career in IT and went on to study a Masters in product design at the Royal College of Art, during which he began his career working on the design of appropriate and affordable wheelchairs and their provision in less resourced settings. This led to the foundation of Motivation with two colleagues Simon Gue and Richard Frost.

Over the last 22 years Motivation has reinvented the approach to the design and provision of low-cost wheelchairs for developing countries. Motivation has needed to transform itself in order to accommodate the huge demand for wheelchairs in less resourced settings.

Since then Motivation recognised the whole mobility sector needed to change. This has been achieved by approaching the World Health Organization to create guidelines for appropriate wheelchair provision in less-resourced settings in order to ensure the implementation of a more standardised and professional system for wheelchair provision worldwide.

Most importantly Motivation's work is about transforming the lives of people requiring appropriate wheeled mobility.