



A new prototype bike



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THANKS TO THE HELP OF AMWAY® AND AMWAY IBO'S, TADNSW IS ABLE TO LAUNCH A NEW PROTOTYPE BIKE. THIS MEANS MORE CUSTOMISED BIKES TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.

Ramon Ortiz, Technical Aid to the Disabled NSW (TADNSW) Service Development Manager, is quite excited about the new protocol bikes that his team have been developing over the last six months. Together with Rehabilitation Engineer Keith Olds, Physiotherapist Kristi Harvey-Walker, and volunteers Fred Thompson, Bob Cook and Bruce Hattersley, the group at TAD have created a prototype bike which cuts the assembly time dramatically.

Assembling the old bikes required a well-equipped workshop, welding knowledge and a lot of time. The new prototype bike has simplified the process. Ortiz says, "Once you get the hang of it, the new bikes will probably take no more than a couple of hours to do. And you only need a spanner and then you can do it in the living room, garage – wherever you want."

The new bike designs will even make it easier for the children and their parents to take the bike around. "If you wanted to take the old bike from your home to a park, putting it in your car used to take anywhere from 20 to 30 minutes to disassemble the bike and put it in your boot. Then it would take another half hour to put it back together again.

But now it's just a matter of two pins and two knobs and that's it. The disassembly process will take one minute and the assembly process will be the same."

"The whole exercise of re-engineering the bikes was with a single aim in mind and that was to manufacture more bikes and deliver more bikes to make it easier for our volunteers to assemble more bikes. It's all about getting more numbers in."

The service van that TADNSW is purchasing, will help to take the FREEDOM WHEELS program Australia-wide.

"[This goal] is working towards what Amway was saying as well, affecting people's lives, and doing it one by one. It's that sort of thing. The whole engineering exercise was to help us deliver more to a wider audience."

TADNSW is excited about the progress and grateful for the overwhelming support. We have so much more to achieve and thank you for your ongoing support.

To make your donation, go to a2k Amway online and follow the links on the FREEDOM WHEELS page. You can also call 1800 45 46 47 to make a donation. For more information about FREEDOM WHEELS, contact Nadia Zeatier on 02 9843 2438, Deb Campbell on 02 9843 2144 or email freedomwheels@amway.com.

