About the IPC Athlete Career Programme (IPC ACP)

In 2007, the IPC joined with Adecco to make the Athlete Career Programme available to its athletes. The IPC ACP coaches and trains elite Paralympic athletes around the world to successfully make the difficult transition from elite sport to a new career. In 2012, the IPC and Adecco Group renewed their commitment for 8 years until 2020 to meet the needs of Paralympic athletes at every stage of their lives.

The Cooperation

“This programme is an excellent opportunity for Paralympians to address the challenging transition from their sporting career to be successful in their new professional lives. We appreciate the focus Adecco has applied to this opportunity and we are looking forward to a successful collaboration in the best interest of the athletes.”

Sir Philip Craven MBE, President, International Paralympic Committee

“Paralympians are passionate about being the best in the world, carrying the torch for their country on a global stage. We are proud to be the partner in their career transition. Self-assessment, training, coaching and individual development planning are core components of this programme, enabling athletes to get a flying start to their professional lives.”

Patrick De Maeseneire, Chief Executive Officer Adecco Group

For more information:

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Send an e-mail to: athletes@adecco.com, or contact your National Paralympic Committee (NPC)

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For Employers

Employees are a significant investment for an organization, and finding dedicated and committed candidates can be a challenge. Goal-oriented, determined, courageous and inspirational team players are always difficult to find.

The Opportunity

Paralympic athletes have unique experiences and many desirable skills to offer. However, many have a background that does not fit readily into a commonly recognized career and work structure. Involvement with the IPC Athlete Career Programme can provide companies with extraordinary employees, capable of contributing special skills and traits they have exemplified as athletes who had to overcome many barriers before reaching their goals:

- competitive
- team players
- goal-oriented
- passionate
- enduring
- internationally experienced
- coachable
- hard-working

Imagine employees who have a never-ending desire to be the best, combined with the talent and skills that enabled them to perform at an elite level. We help these athletes bring their sporting qualities to bear in their business careers.

Being successful is not a matter of luck – it boils down to systematic training and dedication, and athletes have the character traits to perform at a high level, both on the field of play and in business!

The IPC Athlete Career Programme supports elite and Paralympic athletes with employment opportunities using a two-track approach: Career Development and Job Placement.

Career Development

The Adecco Group, together with the IPC, IOC and certain NPCs and NOCs, created a customized programme for athletes in the following areas: defining career goals, creating a CV/résumé, interview technique and networking tips.

Job Placement

Athletes’ employment needs vary at different stages of their careers. During competition, many look for part-time work, enabling them to combine sport and securing an income. At the end of their sporting careers, they need to take the important step of entering the labour market and looking for full-time employment. That is where Adecco’s expertise and network comes in, making the right match and bringing employers and athletes together.

Athletes’ Testimonials

“For me, a job is not just about earning a living, it is also about self-fulfilment. Through meetings with Adecco, I defined my career objectives and undertook basic and professional training, as a basis for a more effective proposal to companies. On completing the training, I achieved my target and obtained a position at a leading telecommunications firm.”

Antonella Cecilia, Para-Equestrian, Italy

“When I heard about the Athlete Career Programme, I contacted the Adecco branch in Berlin and in March 2007, I started work as a Facility Manager at the Swiss Embassy in Berlin, working 28 hours a week. Thanks to Adecco, I was able to focus on preparations for the Paralympics in Beijing.”

Martin Rickmann, Sitting Volleyball, Germany

More information can be found at: www.adecco.com or www.paralympic.org/athletes