



User – Originated Design

March 3, 2016



Founded by Ralf Hotchkiss in 1980
after his travels in Nicaragua
working with local wheelchair users
to design durable, useable
wheelchairs.







This woman in India can't participate in family activities because her chair is inadequate

- Employment
- Evolving design
- User participation



Double amputee building wheelchairs in Nicaragua – circa 1995



2010 RoughRider®

- Employment
- Communication
- Cohesive community
- Collective action



Women wheelchair riders building wheelchairs in Uganda – circa 1998















Design Trade-offs
Who should make them?

St. Boniface Hospital in Fond
des Blancs, Haiti – 2010



THE END