



IPC VISION, MOTTO, SYMBOL

Vision

To enable Paralympic athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world.

Each word in the vision has a clear meaning in defining the ultimate aim of the IPC:

- To enable: this is the primary role of the IPC as an organization - to create the conditions for athlete empowerment through self-determination.
- Paralympic athletes: the primary focus of IPC's activities, in the context of Paralympic athletes, is the development of all athletes from initiation to elite level.
- To achieve sporting excellence: the goal of the IPC as a sports centred organization.
- To inspire and excite the world: the external result is our contribution to a better world for all persons with an impairment. To achieve this, relations with external organizations and the promotion of the Paralympic Movement as a whole are of prime importance.

Motto

The spirit of every Paralympic athlete is uncompromising - every day exceeding what others had thought was possible by pushing themselves to the limit. With the motto 'Spirit in Motion,' the IPC has captured what the Paralympic Movement is trying to achieve: enabling athletes from all backgrounds to unite on a single stage, inspiring and exciting the world with their performances.

Symbol

The new Paralympic Symbol (logo) was launched in 2003. It is a symbol in motion, with three Agitos (from the Latin meaning 'I move') encircling a centre point; emphasizing the role that the IPC has of bringing athletes from all corners of the world together and enabling them to compete. It also emphasizes the fact that Paralympic athletes are constantly inspiring and exciting the world with their performances - always moving forward and never giving up. The new Paralympic Symbol consists of three elements in red, blue and green - the three colours that are most widely represented in national flags around the world.

The previous symbol incorporated the Tae-Geuk, which is a traditional Korean decorative motif. Tae-Geuks were first used in a symbol at the 1988 Paralympic Games in Seoul, Korea. At that time, the symbol consisted of five Tae-Geuks in a configuration and in colours similar to the Olympic Rings, ie, blue, black, red, yellow and green.

In 1991, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) requested that the IPC modify its symbol, if the symbol was to be used for marketing purposes. The IOC Marketing Department considered the symbol with five Tae-Geuks too similar to the five Olympic Rings, and hence a point of potential

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confusion for the IOC Sponsorship Programme. The configuration of five Tae-Geuks was allowed to be used at the 1994 Paralympic Winter Games in Lillehammer, Norway. A Paralympic Symbol with three Tae-Geuks was officially launched on a worldwide level at the 1994 World Championships for IPC Sports and 'Mind, Body, Spirit' was adopted as the Paralympic motto, which has now been replaced by the motto 'Spirit in Motion'.

The Tae-Geuks were in limited use until the Closing Ceremony of the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games. When handing over the flag to Beijing, a flag with the new symbol was used. From then on, the old symbol is no longer in use.

