



## MISSION REPORT – RWANDA

Nyanza – 25-29 October 2021

- SwissLimbs returned to **Rwanda!**
- **13** technicians trained
- **7** amputees fitted

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# The mission

Nyanza, Rwanda - 25 - 29 October 2021

SwissLimbs' second training mission to Rwanda took place at the HVP Gatagara Orthopedics & Rehabilitation Hospital in Nyanza, the capital of the Southern Province.

A total of **13 orthopedic technicians** from 2 orthopedic centers (HVP Gatagara in Kigali and HVP Gatagara in Nyanza) participated at the training. SwissLimbs dispatched two senior trainers, both based in East Africa. From Gulu, Uganda, **Emmanuel Kalanzi**, SwissLimbs' chief trainer and ambassador for Africa, and from Mwanza, Tanzania, **Claude Mushi**, orthopedic technician from the Mwanza Prosthetics & Orthotics Workshop.

As a result of the training, **7 patients** had their mobility restored by being fitted with new prosthetics.

The 5-day program focused on re-assessing and training the Monolimb technology, to ensure that it was suitable for both new participants and those who had already participated in the June 2021 training mission. The orthopedic technicians who were unable to participate at the first SwissLimbs mission in Rwanda also had the opportunity to be mentored by previously trained technicians.

On Monday 25th October, the trainees attended a lecture on the Monolimb technology, presented by Claude Mushi. Their interest was peaked by two aspects: its uncomplicated and fast production process. Once the 7 patients were cast, the orthopedic technicians-in-training divided into groups and began producing the prostheses.



# Training times

Nyanza, Rwanda - 25 - 29 October 2021

A few moments of the taking of casts of the disabled patients and the fabrication of the prostheses.



## A word from Mr Kalanzi



**Emmanuel Kalanzi**  
SwissLimbs  
Ambassador for  
Africa, orthopedic  
technician and chief  
trainer from Gulu,  
Uganda

"This second mission to Rwanda was really very positive. All of the orthopedic technicians who participated were fully committed and active. The patients who have received a prosthesis have been extremely satisfied with it.

The administration of the HVP Gatagara is also proud that already two SwissLimbs trainings have taken place in its orthopedic workshop and hope the collaboration can continue.

At the HVP Gatagara, they want to introduce SwissLimbs technology into their daily work and wish that SwissLimbs can organize specific training for the upper limbs as well."



# Presentation of the certificates

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At the end of the training, the 13 participants received a certificate attesting their participation and acquisition of the professional knowledge gained during the week.

The HVP Gatagara management requested that SwissLimbs facilitate a written exam to theoretically confirm each of the participants understanding of the Monolimb production method. The exam was a real success, with **an average score of 80%**.

The SwissLimbs' trainers then presented the certificates, in the presence of the Head of Accounting of the HVP Gatagara, in recognition of the General Director, Brother Kizito Misago, who unfortunately was unable to attend the event.



# The 13 participants

Nyanza, Rwanda - 25 - 29 October 2021



**Herman Rwirangira**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Theophile Semudenge**  
HVP Gatagara  
Gikondo



**Anastaze Irafasha**  
HVP Gatagara  
Gikondo



**Aline Niyonkuru**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Ange Brave Mbamumana**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Emile Niyonkuru**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Didier Nsangiza**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Jean Marie Tuyisenge**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Isaac Rukundo**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Josephine Niyodusenga**  
HVP Gatagara  
Gikondo



**Emerance Dusuweneza**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza



**Fulgence Bucyibaruta**  
HVP Gatagara  
Gikondo



**Jean-Pierre Hakizimana**  
HVP Gatagara  
Nyanza

# The SwissLimbs technical trainers



**Emmanuel Kalanzi - SwissLimbs Ambassador for Africa, orthopedic technician and chief trainer from Gulu, Uganda**

Mr. Kalanzi is a certified orthopedic technician, committed and passionate about humanitarian causes and projects. He works for AVSI Foundation Uganda at the Gulu Regional Orthopedic Workshop "GROW" and has over 40 years of experience in the profession.

He is the Ambassador of SwissLimbs in Africa and responsible for the implementation of the training modules for orthopedic technicians of the SwissLimbs projects.



**Claude Mushi - MPOW Manager and Certified Prosthetist and Orthotist CPO - Tanzania**

Claude holds a Bachelor degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics from Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College, in Tanzania. He has a background in project management, marketing and administration. Claude has worked in several companies for the past four years and acted as general manager in Kibo Natural Water company limited based in Kilimanjaro and Tai Five hotel based in Mwanza.

Claude is manager of the Mwanza Prosthetics & Orthotics Workshop MPOW, which was rehabilitated by SwissLimbs in 2018.

# The beneficiaries

Nyanza, Ruanda - 25 - 29 ottobre 2021



**Isaac Uwiringiyimana**  
31 years old, a transtibial amputee since 2002



**Pascal Nsengiyumva**  
40 years old, a transtibial amputee since 1995



**Jean Bosco Ngizwenimana**  
38 years old, a transtibial amputee since 2003



**Therese Nyirahabimana**  
30 years old, a transfemoral amputee since 1996



**Vianney Ntaganda**  
49 years old, a transtibial amputee since 1994



**Fulgence Hagenimana**  
32 years old, a transtibial amputee since 1994



**Solange Uwamahirwe**  
32 years old, a transtibial amputee since 2005

# Testimonies

Nyanza, Rwanda - 25 - 29 October 2021



## **Fulgence Hagenimana, 32 years old, a transtibial amputee since 1994**

Fulgence is a 32 year old man, who lives 30 minutes from Gatagara, but originally comes from the Ruhango district.

He works at HVP Gatagara as a lab technician and plays for Rwanda's national volleyball team for the Paralympics. He also participated in the London Paralympics in 2012.

Fulgence lost his leg during the 1994 Rwandan genocide when he was a child. He was rescued from his assailants by his mother, who also managed to control the copious blood flow from his wounded leg. Due to poor medical practise at the hospital his left leg was ultimately amputated below the knee.

He's happy with his new Monolimb, as it's much lighter than any of the prosthetics he has been fitted with since his incident in 1994.



## **Jean Bosco Ngizwenimana, 38 years old, a transtibial amputee since 2003**

Jean Bosco is a victim of a landmine explosion in the Northern regions of Rwanda.

While walking through an unmarked landmine area, Jean stepped one of them, which exploded, leaving him with one leg completely mangled below the knee. Next thing he remembers is waking up in the hospital.

Jean is married and has two children. He is a farmer, and is also a member of Rwanda's national volleyball team.

The Monolimb he received during SwissLimbs' mission to Rwanda is his second prosthesis.