

Pistorius competes against able-bodied field



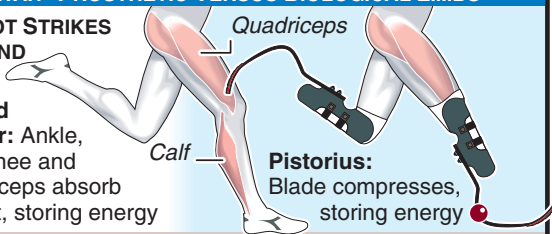
Oscar Pistorius, who runs with carbon fibre blades after having both legs amputated below the knee, is to take on the world's best athletes while the IAAF decides if his prosthetic legs give him an unfair advantage

"CHEETAH" PROSTHETIC VERSUS BIOLOGICAL LIMBS

1. FOOT STRIKES GROUND

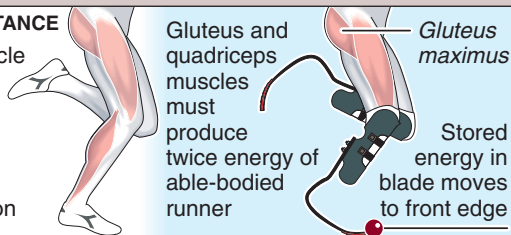
Able-bodied runner:

Ankle, calf, knee and quadriceps absorb impact, storing energy



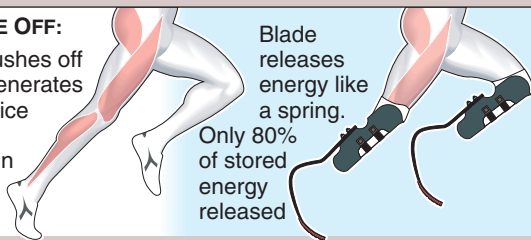
2. MID STANCE

Calf muscle begins to fire. All leg muscles provide locomotion



3. TAKE OFF:

Foot pushes off – leg generates over twice energy stored in first impact



Socket:

Snug fit to leg

Foot: Carbon composite

Spikes

RECORD COMPARISONS

Time (seconds)

| Competition | 400 metres | 200m | 100m |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2004 Olympic gold, men | 44.00 | 19.79 | 9.85 |
| Pistorius' records | 46.34 | 21.58 | 10.91 |
| 2004 Olympic gold, women | 49.41 | 22.05 | 10.93 |

Picture: Getty Images Sources: Ossur, IAAF © GRAPHIC NEWS