

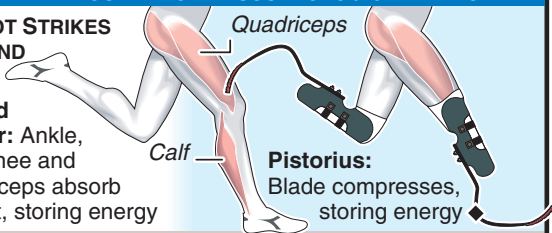
IAAF decision on "Cheetah" prosthetics

The IAAF, the governing body of athletics, appears set to rule that Oscar Pistorius, who runs with carbon fibre blades after having both legs amputated below the knee, gains an unfair advantage from his prosthetic legs

"CHEETAH" PROSTHETIC VERSUS BIOLOGICAL LIMBS

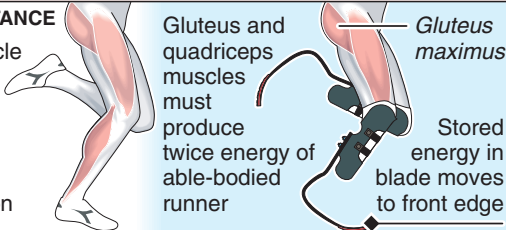
1. FOOT STRIKES GROUND

Able-bodied runner: Ankle, calf, knee and quadriceps absorb impact, storing energy



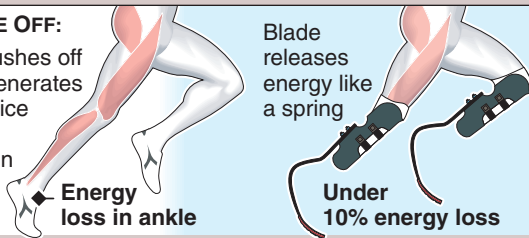
2. MID STANCE

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