

# **e-hoof.com - The Essential Educational Tool for Farriers and Equine Vets**

## **Background**

The role of the horse in society has changed from being a mainly working animal to that of a valued companion in sport and leisure, often treated much like a pet. Society's heightened awareness of animal welfare and the increasing desire to respect animals' needs has not only led to significant changes in equine husbandry, but has also resulted in an increasing demand for highly skilled and knowledgeable equine professionals.

The vision behind e-hoof.com was the creation of a joint platform of knowledge for two equine professions – veterinary medicine and farriery – that form an integral part of equine health care. A shared source of information will help sustain and improve mutual respect, dialogue and cooperation between the two professions.

To appeal to all levels of knowledge, the platform has been made suitable for use as a teaching aid for individuals at the outset of their training, as well as being a source of information for established equine professionals wishing to develop their knowledge. Its attractive, user-friendly format should also appeal to anyone else with an interest in the horse who would like to know more about the horse's foot and lower limbs or the horse in general.

## **Product**

e-hoof.com is the result of more than 5 years planning and development. It is a state-of-the-art, interactive web platform that is based around material contributed and peer reviewed by specialists in their fields. It is divided into discrete topics, and has a wide range of multi-media tools with thousands of illustrations, photos, films, interactive animations and models.

## **Content**

The content is divided into to four main themes around the horse and the hoof:

- **HIPPOLOGY** provides all the essential background knowledge on the horse. Content includes chapters on evolution, behaviour, handling, identification, feeding, evaluation of the hoof and many more.
- **ANATOMY** forms the basis of any profession closely involved in keeping a horse sound. Content includes detailed chapters on the musculoskeletal system and the hoof, basic information on organ systems and a section devoted to biomechanics.
- **HORSESHOEING** covers everything from the materials and equipment used, through extensive video footage of forging techniques to routine hoof care and remedial shoeing.

- DISORDERS OF THE HOOF provides detailed and up-to-date information on a wide range of disorders of the hoof and the distal limb, combined with chapters on orthopaedic examination and diagnostic imaging.

To make the information readily accessible, the material is presented in many short chapters through which users can browse in any way which suits their particular style of learning. Content is labelled as basic or in-depth making it easier for trainees to focus on the content suited to their level of training, while still providing the detail necessary for users engaged in continuing professional development (CPD).

e-hoof.com will be continually updated to include new or improved material, peer-reviewed articles on timely topics or additional features such as specific CPD modules.

The platform includes a Glossary in eight European languages with over 1,000 terms relating to the horse, the hoof and horseshoeing.

### **What Next**

Sound knowledge underpins good equine welfare practice. For students or practising professional farriers or equine veterinary surgeons, or for concerned horse owners, trainers or grooms, e-hoof.com will provide well presented, up-to-date information wherever it is required. To purchase your copy, visit [www.e-hoof.com](http://www.e-hoof.com). Available from April 2014.

09. February 2014, e-hoof.com University of Zurich

### **Further information and illustrative material:**

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www.e-hoof.com