

## Fact sheet

### Equicizer

1. The Equicizer is a mechanical horse. The rider sits on it, either bareback or with a saddle, moving it back and forth with their body motion, using their hips, abdominals, spine and leg muscles. This allows a deconditioned individual to build up “core strength”, allowing better posture and better use of their body. This is especially important for an individual that has a condition that makes it difficult to exercise normally.
2. Frankie Lovato, Jr. is the inventor of the Equicizer. Wooden Horse Corp is the name of his manufacturing company.
3. Frankie Lovato, Jr., is an Eclipse Award Winning Jockey, retired. He rode in **15,603** races, with **1,686 (11%) wins, and 1,686 (11%) places. In total, the horses Frankie rode have earned: \$41,795,267**
4. The first Equicizer was built in 1982, as a means to rehab himself from a badly broken leg, sustained in a racing accident.
5. The Equicizer was first designed for jockeys as an aid in practice and development of their specialized skills, although it didn't take long for other riding disciplines and therapies to recognize it's benefits. Now over 150 Equicizers and EquiPonies are in therapeutic riding programs.
6. Equicizer can be found online at <http://Equicizer.com>

### Therapeutic Riding

1. **NARHA** (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, <http://www.narha.org/>) is the main organizational body for therapeutic riding in North America, with over 7,000 certified member facilities. There are many more uncertified programs as well.
2. **An Olympian equestrian, Liz Hartel**, sparked interest in using horses as therapy. Liz Hartel won the silver medal in dressage in 1952 - the first woman to ever do so - after her legs were paralyzed from Polio.
3. People who might otherwise be confined to a wheelchair ultimately gain a new independence and mobility on the back of a horse. The horse's motion simulates to the rider, the motions a human uses while walking, thus stretching and strengthening the joints, muscles and ligaments required. It is also beneficial for mentally handicapped or emotionally disturbed patients, stimulating their minds and allowing them to associate words with motions.

### HorseSalt

1. HorseSalt imports Himalayan Salt into the U.S. from Pakistan, and markets it to equestrians.
2. Himalayan Salt comes only from Pakistan.

3. Himalayan salt is much healthier than the traditional pressed salt, as it hasn't been baked. Baking the salt destroys the crystal structure, making it hard for the animal to metabolize. Himalayan salt requires much less water and energy to metabolize.
4. HorseSalt is awarding a competitive grant for an Equicizer. Owner, Patricia Reszetylo, has seen the benefits of therapeutic riding, both directly in her own personal experience, and with her two special-needs boys.
5. HorseSalt can be found online at <http://HorseSalt.com>