

**INTERNATIONAL BIOPTIC DRIVING CONFERENCE**

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**TITLE OF PRESENTATION:**

**BiOptic Driving in Quebec: an innovation in visual rehabilitation services for low vision people**

**ABSTRACT OF PRESENTATION:**

**Objective :** To present preliminary results of an experimental project on driving with BiOptic.

**Description:** Since October 2001, the Institut de réadaptation en déficience physique de Québec (IRD PQ), started an experimental project for developing compensatory abilities for driving with people having a low visual acuity. The presentation will focus on the objectives of the project, the partnerships, program's content and organization, costs and evaluation. The profile, visual protocol and process of the candidates through the program will also be presented as well as their results to the evaluations and to the practical test of the Société d'assurance-automobile du Québec, the licensing authority in Quebec province.

**The results:** In July 2003, 10 candidates over the 13 selected for the project will have completed the program; the progression of each candidate as apprentice-driver or driver will be detailed. A preliminary evaluation of the project and a glance at the future of the BiOptic driving program will also be presented.

**Social participation :** Before such a project, people who did not conform to optometric norms of the Société d'assurance-automobile du Québec, have no access

**to an evaluation of their driving capacity. Our project will permit, we hope, to eliminate a handicap situation for visually impaired people.**