

How Prene Products Came To Be

By David P. DiFilippo

Plato, the ancient Greek philosopher, coined the phrase, “Necessity is the Mother of invention”. Chandler-based Prene Products has certainly followed this mantra with their new products, Neo Nuckles, a sports brace and Finger Friends, the corresponding medical brace.

And the story goes, somewhere in early 2012, Tom Hessman and Suzanne Kensington, Arizona residents and boyfriend/girlfriend, took up golf. Tom quickly caught the golf bug and became quite obsessed to the point where Suzanne started looking for a “golf 12 step program for him to join” and golf widow support groups for herself.

All kidding aside, Tom quickly realized that he hated wearing a golf glove. It was a nuisance to take on and off and frankly, the glove didn’t allow him to feel the club’s grip as he would have preferred. So he tried athletic tape and then band aids but both were messy, didn’t provide enough protection and were not durable.

He relentlessly looked for a solution yet couldn’t find anything on the market to meet his needs. He finally bought one of those neoprene can koozies, the item that keeps your drinks cold, and with the help of Suzanne’s 16-year old daughter, Savannah and her sewing machine, made a prototype.

The first trial product worked well. Tom not only wore them for golf but found the finger braces useful for preventing finger blisters and reducing calluses while engaging in numerous activities including weight lifting. As Tom began wearing the braces, he discovered that his painful arthritic fingers felt much more relief from the compression, support and heat that the products generated.

At that point, Hessman and Kensington realized that they had created a product that numerous people could benefit from—and so months later, Prene Products LLC was born. The owners went to work and found a manufacturer and shortly thereafter, their first samples were done and shipped to them. At Thanksgiving 2012, they “tested” them on family and friends who gathered for the Holiday and the feedback was positive.

They then decided to develop the two aforementioned product lines – Neo Nuckles and Finger Friends. Prene Products’ R&D Department meets frequently at night, in their

home in while Tom uses every excuse he can to go out to the golf course and “tests” our new and developing products whenever he is able.



Just recently, the company developed their newest brace – Finger Grippers. Finger Grippers is unique because it has a rubber texture, on the outside, to provide a significantly better grip. The Finger Grippers work well to help keep a firm grip on the club even in the rain. This product is being finalized and will be available for sale in the near future.

Prene Products are available in select Arizona and Southwest stores. For more information or to order product, visit www.preneproducts.com