

Safety Alert



SUBJECT: Medical Device Alert: Transporting Occupied Powered wheelchairs manufactured by Pride Mobility Products Ltd (MDA/2014/011)

RECIPIENTS: Council arranged Transport, Commissioned Social Care Services (Adults and Children) and Lincolnshire Schools

ISSUE DATE: 3rd April 2014 **REF:** HSA9

Background

The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued a Medical Device Alert to highlight specific instructions to be followed when transporting occupied wheelchairs manufactured by Pride Mobility Products. The MDA Alert and Manufacturer's information can be accessed via this link: MDA/2014/011

The Problem:

There is a potential for injury should wheelchairs be secured into vehicles incorrectly.

Pride Mobility has updated their transportation documentation (dated September 2013); this includes safety-critical information. In particular, the guidance on how to secure powered wheelchairs requiring more than four tie-downs has been clarified.

Pride Mobility issued a Field Safety Notice in October 2013. However, it is not clear whether users have received and acted upon this new guidance hence the issue of the MDA Alert.

General Guidance - Transporting Occupied Wheelchairs

Risk assessments must be in place for the individuals who are to be transported in their wheelchair to include staff training, driver training and emergency arrangements.

Organisations arranging transport for adults or children in their wheelchairs must refer to the relevant wheelchair manufacturer's information and instructions to select the appropriate wheelchair tie down and occupant restraints and specific instructions to be followed.

Further information

- Lincolnshire County Council [LCC Max Respect Driver and Passenger Assistant Pack](#)
- BS 8603:2013 Code of Practice for wheelchair passport schemes [BS8603](#)
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents – [Minibus Safety A Code of Practice](#)

Providers or organisations can subscribe directly to the MHRA to receive alerts and bulletins in relation to Medical Devices and Equipment: www.mhra.gov.uk

**If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:
The Health and Safety Team 01522 836726**