



Product Update Information

Bulletin no: PU001

Date: 7 December 2000

The use of Invacare 'Patient Transfer Slings' with other Manufacturers Patient Transfer Products

Invacare use a 'Loop and Coat Hanger Spreader Bar System' as do many other manufacturers, therefore Invacare approves the use of its range of slings on suitable patient transfer systems manufactured by other companies. We do not, however, recommend our slings be used on equipment other than the 'Loop and Coat Hanger Spreader Bar System'. In particular, it should be noted that Invacare slings are not suitable or compatible with 'Keyhole Spreader Bar' or 'Tilting Frame Spreader Bar' designs.

Regardless of the equipment in use it is strongly recommended that a full and thorough risk assessment be undertaken and documented to an individual users' needs. The risk assessment record should take account of methodology appropriate to the individual and should specifically detail:

- ◆ Type of sling to be used.
- ◆ Type of hoist/lifter to be used.
- ◆ Method of applying and removing sling. *
- ◆ Number of carers required to carry out the task.
- ◆ Method of applying sling to spreader bar of hoist, detailing appropriate loop length.
- ◆ Any specific details relating to accessing specialist equipment eg Snoezelen suite, hydrotherapy pools.
- ◆ Details of personnel trained to use the equipment.

* *The method of applying and removing the sling should be relevant to the users' needs and based on manufacturer's specific recommendations. (Any deviations from the manufacturer's recommendations should be risk assessed and documented, as they will become the responsibility of the assessor).*

Should you require further information or guidance with regards to this statement then please call Invacare on 01656 647327.