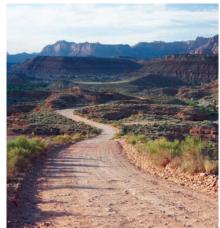






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#### AUTUMN 2011 ▶ ▶ ▶ VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3

#### **CONTENTS**

#### **FEATURES**

#### 20 NMEDA News Brief

- Introducing Our New Quality Control Director, Bill Fredo
- Association News

#### 24 Along the Newswire

- MobilityWorks & VMI Team Up
- VCI Mobility 2011 Buyer's Guide
- Braun 2011 Dodge & Chrysler
- VMI's New Website
- Newlywed's New Lease on Life
- Automobility Manufacturing Corporation Turns 20
- Harmar's Next Lift Line
- VMI's Down Payment Incentive
- Operation PAVE
- Atom-Jet AJILity Lift

#### **40** Your Training Source

What Training Opportunities Does NMEDA Have to Offer?

44 The 20 Most Expensive Google Words: How Does Our Industry Compare?

By Bob Lundin

#### 46 Industry Advisor

- FMVSS 126 Sliding Doors and ESC
- FMVSS 202A Exemption
- Tire Label Requirements
- FMVSS 214 Pole Test

#### **COLUMNS**

### 6 President's Letter By Bill Siebert

18 CEO's Report
By Dave Hubbard

### **Technician's Corner**By Ray Morton

#### 50 Canada Regional Report By David Hutchison

### 52 Regional Reports By Your Regional Reps

#### **ALSO**

- 4 2011 Board of Directors
- 10 List of NMEDA Dealers
- 17 QAP Scorecard
- 32 Supply Order Form
- 37 Contact Information Audit
- **43** QAP Discount Program
- 48 Canada Update
- 51 2011 Canadian Board of Directors
- 56 Manufacturer/Associate Member Directory
- 63 Dates to Remember
- 66 The Last Word

#### NMEDA MISSION STATEMENT

Through our diverse membership NMEDA advocates and supports excellence in providing safe, reliable vehicles and modifications to enhance accessibility for people with special needs.



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### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011**



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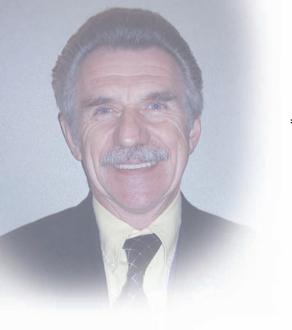
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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

#### BILL SIEBERT (SIEBERT MOBILITY - GLENWOOD, IOWA)

The NMEDA President has been in the mobility business since 1978 and a member of NMEDA since 1994. Over the years his business has grown to four locations serving lowa, Nebraska and Arkansas. He has served on the NMEDA Board in some capacity for nearly ten years. Concerns or questions for the President may be directed to him at info@nmeda.org.

### This article will be one of my last as your president.

y second term as President will be up in February of 2012. I will be here as past President on your board and will be helping the new President for two to four years.

I want to talk about some of the great things I have witnessed as a board member and a little about myself as a board member for twelve years and a mobility dealer for over thirty three years.

When I began in this industry, we modified vehicles in welding shops. We had very little input or regulation from anyone. Our shops did what the client needed and no one said a word. Everyone we helped was thankful to have us and we all became friends.

This article is being written because one of my first three customers was here yesterday for a service and a gear shift extension. He and I were visiting in my driveway and talking about the old days. He is a charter member of the Great Plains PVA and one of the first people I was able to help in my career. He and three other members came to my welding shop and told me what they needed. His comment yesterday, as he sat in my driveway, was "Boy things have really changed in this industry since you

built Jay's van in 1978." Another old time customer and I were visiting and he said, "One thing hasn't changed: You still care for us and we are blessed to have you and your employees to help us."

Just when you think this industry has become about millions of dollars in inventory, accounts receivables, government regulations, and litigation, my customers remind me why we are here: WE CARE. I have always said that to do a good job in this industry you must be in it for the right reasons, everything else will follow. I just returned from Washington, DC working for our dealers to try to get some things done that we feel will help our client get the RIGHT STUFF.

to get things done in Washington. It takes a lot of work, but little by little we are MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

I have worked on many committees and have helped our organization make many changes. When you visit with people running our government, state government, other organizations and clients, they are all impressed with the fact that we are committed to a QAP system for our dealers.

If anything I have done in NMEDA has made a difference, I think it would be GUIDELINES AND QAP. I have enjoyed my years on the board and the friends I have made by being a NMEDA member. Most of all, I enjoy helping clients like Joe and Terry thirty years later. It is good to have input from others to help

# I have always said that to do a good job in this industry you must be in it for the right reasons..."

When you are involved in these meetings you realize that you are doing this for those same customers you started with so many years ago. They want and deserve NMEDA's help to keep them going.

We also went to the PVA games, where NMEDA had a booth in their expo. Several of my clients participate in these games and were there in Philadelphia. The PVA is a very important part of helping all of our clients and join forces with NMEDA

you realize this business of mobility for others is still about ALL THE RIGHT REASONS.

As always this is your NMEDA and involvement means that you can enjoy what I have for many years. It is important to be wanted, needed and appreciated in your life. This organization and the people we work with can help make this happen.

---

# Attention NMEDA Members ... come be one of the best!



"Linking Accessibility Nationwide"

### Wheelchair Accessible Van Rental Network

### Our members receive:

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If you are looking for a way to enhance your Mobility dealership, come see what AVA can do for you!

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ASSOCIATION

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www.AccessibleVans.com



#### WHAT IS EMAIL MARKETING?

Also known as e-blasts or e-newsletters, email marketing is direct communication with your clients that helps increase awareness, generates leads and builds relationships with prospective and existing customers.

Through email marketing you can reach a large number of subscribers through an inexpensive medium. Recipients can instantly receive and respond to your message and through targeted advertising you can use it as a website traffic driver. Through email marketing you can easily track your return on investment.

#### **TERMINOLOGY**

- Above the Fold part of the email message that is visible without scrolling
- · Acquisition Cost cost to generate one lead, newsletter subscriber or customer in an individual email campaign
- · Blacklist list of IP addresses believed to send spam
- · **Bounce** message that was returned to sender because it was not deliverable
- · List Hygiene process of cleaning and de-duplicating email addresses to ensure accuracy, current, opted-in
- · **Lead Nurturing** building relationships with qualified prospects regardless of timing to buy; goal is to earn their business
- · Opt-in/Opt-out agreement to receive the email. Always have an opt-out or unsubscribe.
- · Unsubscribe remove oneself from an email list

#### **SOFTWARE PROGRAMS**

There are several softwares to choose from, some of our favorites are:

**Constant Contact** is a popular program that gives you step-by-step instructions to create your own custom newsletter.

You can also customize your colors and add your logo. It offers:

- · Over 400 email templates
- · Tracking and reporting features
- · 60 day free trial
- · Monthly fees start at \$15 for 500 addresses

Mail Chimp is another program that offers great analytics such as number of times emails are accessed, what time, when, etc. It's a good choice for those who don't have the resources or expertise to do custom programming. It also offers:

- · Free email for lists with 2,000 names or less
- · Easy to use editing systems; WYSIWYG what you see is what you get for the back-end programming section
- · Offers online training



#### **TIPS FOR EMAIL MARKETING**

- · Pick a design or template that complements your brand and keep it clean. Use lots of white space, few pictures and clearly labeled sections
- · Know your reader and provide relevant content
- · Establish goals
- · Don't over communicate

It's important to determine what you want to include: Do you spotlight a product or safety tip? Feature/ Interview an employee?



National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association | **Driving Independence** 



Make it fun or include a quote? The key is to always treat readers like they are a part of your group. Include a link to your website, this helps drive traffic and rankings. Also combine email and social marketing by sharing your campaign with Facebook, Digg or Twitter. Invite your readers to comment. In addition, incorporate Google Analytics so you can view statistics and visits.

#### CONTENT

In today's social age there's less tolerance for communications that sound like they've been written by a legal or PR team. It's important to keep a conversational tone in your copy. Place more emphasis on content that is relevant to your readers and refrain from talking about how great YOU are. Customers words often speak louder than your own so leverage any user generated content such as testimonials, reviews, etc.

#### **PLANNING**

- · Define your objectives and budget
- Design creative that aligns with your customers interests
- · Build, refine and maintain your lists
- · Experiment with test campaigns for effectiveness
- change subject lines, design, days and times sent out, etc. to find out what works best
- · Make sure your email marketing informs, entertains and provides value

#### **SPAM FILTERS**

How to send email without it being marked as spam/junk:

- · Use the same address in the "From" header
- · Use a consistent IP address to send bulk mail
- · Don't use the word 'advertising' in it
- · Don't use repetitive key words
- · Watch for misspellings
- · Don't use flash or rich media
- · Don't use ALL CAPS, !!!!!, \$\$\$\$, free
- · Use standard size fonts and size
- · The subject for each message should be relevant to the e-newsletter content

#### **MAILING LISTS AND FREQUENCY**



A good mailing list is key to the success of your email marketing. Keep your address list current and never send to an old list. Don't scrape lists from websites – it only

takes a few spam complaints to get blocked. Some good ways to grow your list are to add a link on your invoices, add a link on Facebook, offer free giveaways to subscribers, place a link to your signup on every page of your website.

Remember to always be helpful and important to your reader. If you're having problems coming up with rich, informative content, consider reducing the length and frequency of your emails. People value the space in their In Box. Don't be a nuisance.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for our next webinar on October 4 and 13, where we'll take an indepth look at search engine optimization.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for our next webinar on October 4 and 13, where we'll take an in-depth look at search engine optimization.

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> Southern Mobility Products 116 Castle Drive Madison, AL 35758 256-830-6976

Q Sylacauga Handicapped, Inc. 1304 Talladega Hwy. Sylacauga, A 35150 256-249-3717 1,2,3

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**Quality Vans** 1865 S. Indianbend Road Tempe, AZ 85281

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#### **KANSAS**

**Banner Mobility Resources** 

231 SE 53rd St. Ste C Topeka, KS 66609 785-235-3070

Q Jay Hatfield Mobility, LLC

200 S. East Avenue Columbus, KS 66725-1955 800-545-4227

Q Kansas Truck Equipment Co.

1521 S. Tyler Road Wichita, KS 67209 316-722-4291 1,2,3

**Q** United Access

7921 Bond Street Lenexa, KS 66214 913-894-8080 1.3

#### **KENTUCKY**

C & C Ford - Mercury

Post Office Box 249 Sturgis, KY 42459 800-332-6696

Q Marilyn's Medical Freedom

4860 Old Mayfield Rd. Paducah, KY 42003 270-534-9713

Mobile Rehab, LLC

1060 Elizabeth St. Suite #1 Nicholasville, KY 40356 859-881-4444

Q Movin On Mobility Mid America, LLC

3301 Fern Valley Road Louisville, KY 40213 502-964-3556

Pennyrile Home Medical, Inc.

307 E. Main St. Cadiz, KY 42211 270-522-8002

Q Superior Van & Mobility

1180 E. New Circle Rd. Lexington, KY 40505 877-405-9929 1,3

Q Superior Van & Mobility

4734 Rockford Pl. Louisville, KY 40216 877-405-9929 1.2.3

Thomas Medical Equipment

P.O. Box 18010 Louisville, KY 40213 502-459-6006

#### LOUISIANA

**Q** Acadiana Handicap Solutions

224 East Pinhook Rd. Lafayette, LA 70501 337-289-3004 1.2.3

Q Access Vans of LA, Inc.

17300 Hwy. 77 Grosse Tete, LA 70740 225-648-2647 1.2.3

Q Access Vans of Louisiana

1901 Westbank Expwy, Ste 500 Harvey 70058 504-362-9491

**ALLMED Mobility** 

303 N. Market Street Suite B Shreveport, LA 71107 318-222-2860

Q Crescent Vans, Inc.

424 Hickory Ave. Metairie 70003 504-738-2634 1,2,3 Q Fastserv Medical Monroe

112 Summer Lane West Monroe, LA 71291 318-396-3366 1.3

Kenny's Accessible Vans LLC

2001 Wooddale Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806 225-926-2403

Mayfield, Inc dba FastServ Medical Bossier

3050 Knolin Dr. #1 Bossier City, LA 71112 318-741-9586

Regional Medical Rental & Sales

9422 Kingston Road Shreveport, LA 71118 318-686-5277

#### **MASSACHUSETTS**

Q Adaptive Mobility Equipment

1551 Fall River Ave. (Rte. 6) Seekonk, MA 02771 508-336-2556 1.3

Q Automotive Innovations, Inc.

4 First Street Bridgewater, MA 02324-0474 508-697-8324

**Handicap Conversion Vans** 

148 Worc, Prov Turnpike Millbury, MA 01527 508-865-9973

Q New England Wheels Inc.

33 Manning Road Billerica, MA 01821 978-663-9724 1,2,3

Q Ride-Away

249 E. Washington St. N. Attleboro, MA 02760 888-RIDE-AWAY 1,3

Q Ride-Away

333 Boston Prov. Hwy., Bldg. C Norwood, MA 02062 888-RIDE-AWAY 1,3

#### **MARYLAND**

Q AA Eastern Mobility, Inc.

P. O. Box 415 Woodsboro, MD 21798 301-845-4188

Auto Assist, Inc.

5002 Lehigh Ave. College Park, MD 20740 301-699-2238

**Q BEDCO Mobility** 

6300 Falls Rd. Baltimore, MD 21209 410-825-1440

Koons Ford of Annapolis 2540 Riva Rd. Annapolis, MD 21401 410-224-2100

Q Oneness Mobility Services 7620 A Penn Belt Dr. Forestville, MD 20747 866-570-6686 1.2.3

Q Ride Away 11409 Maryland Ave. Beltsville, MD 20705 888-RIDE-AWAY

> Truck'n America Mobility Equipment 2130 Old Washington Rd. Waldorf, MD 20601 301-932-4510

Q TTI Mobility Products 404-D Irl Lane Fruitland, MD 21826 800-576-4323

#### **MAINE**

Q Ride-Away

32 Lewiston Road, Unit 2B Gray, ME 04039 888-RIDE-AWAY 1.3

#### **MICHIGAN**

Q Access Mobility Center 7620 Eastman Avenue Midland, MI 48642 989-633-6100

Q Advantage Mobility Outfitters 3990 Second St. Wayne, MI 48184 734-595-4400 123

Q Clock Conversions 587 W. Blue Star Drive Traverse City, MI 49684 231-943-9890

Q Clock Conversions 6700 Clay Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49548 800-732-5625 1,2,3

**Q Clock Conversions**5540 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Ste 11
Lansing, MI 48911-4012
517-272-4488

Creative Controls, Inc. 32217 Stephenson Hwy. Madison Heights, MI 48071 800-539-7237

Freedom Motors USA 740 Watkins Road Battle Creek, MI 49015 888-625-6335 Gresham Driving Aids P.O.Box 930334 Wixom, MI 48393 248-624-1533

Q MobilityWorks 1965 East Avis Madison Heights, MI 48071 888-473-5402 1.3

Q MobilityWorks 8175 Gratiot Rd. Saginaw, MI 48609 888-473-5402 1.3

#### **MINNESOTA**

218-233-8681

Bert's Truck Equipment of Moorhead, Inc. 3804 Hwy 75 North Moorhead, MN 56561

Q Cummings Mobility 1755 W County Road C. Roseville, MN 55113 651-633-7887

Q Cummings Mobility Conversions & Supply Inc. 6540 Jansen Ave. NE Albertville, MN 55301 763-497-0103 1,2,3

Q IMED Mobility 1915 County Road C Roseville, MN 55113 651-635-0655 1,2,3

**Q Rollx Vans**6591 W. Highway 13
Savage, MN 55378
800-956-6668
1.2.3

Wheelchairs Plus, Inc. 65 Third Street NE Waite Park, MN 56387 N/A

Wheelchairs Plus, Inc. 502 SE 10th Street Grand Rapids, MN 55744 218-326-1833

#### **MISSOURI**

Q D.W. Auto & Home Mobility Specialties 1208 N. Garth Ave.

1208 N. Garth Ave. Columbia, MO 65203 800-568-2271 1,2,3

Q Handicap Conversions, Inc. 8200 NW 97th Terrace Kansas City, MO 64153 816-471-0305 1,2,3 Mid America Coach, Inc. 8809 East State Road 350 Kansas City, MO 64133 816-734-5000

Q Southern Bus & Mobility, Inc. 80 South Highway Dr. Valley Park, MO 63088 636-825-0700 1,3

Q United Access 9389 Natural Bridge Rd St. Louis, MO 63134 314-426-1010 1,2,3

**Q United Access**618 Jackson St.
Columbia, MO 65203
573-874-2214
1,3

Q United Access 1389 N. Cedarbrook Springfield, MO 65802 417-890-1043 1,3

#### **MISSISSIPPI**

Q Grace Healthcare Inc. 1120 Broad Avenue Gulfport, MS 39501 228-863-3331

Q Handicapable Vans, Inc. 5516 North State Street Jackson, MS 39206 601-981-0042 1.2,3

**Q** J's Mobility Unlimited, Inc. 3880 Flowood Dr. Flowood, MS 39232 601-939-2112 1,2,3

Q Mobility Systems, Inc. 2857 Oak Grove Road Hattiesburg, MS 39402 601-264-0609 1,2,3

Q Team Adaptive, Inc. 978 Tommy Munro Dr. Biloxi, MS 39532 228-388-5700

Q Total Mobility Concepts LLC 1204 S. Gloster Street Tupelo, MS 38801 662-269-2068

#### **MONTANA**

**G & J Enterprises** 3353 Old Hardin Rd Billings, MT 59101 406-248-5767

#### **NORTH CAROLINA**

Care Solutions 700 Ray St. Hendersonville, NC 28792 828-698-9844

Q Carolina Mobility Sales, LLC 4025 Queen City Dr. Charlotte, NC 28208 704-399-0900 1,2,3

Freedom Mobility Aids 205 Cedar Lane Clemmons, NC 27012 336-766-8520

Q Ilderton Conversion of Charlotte 5518 Westpark Dr. Charlotte, NC 28217 704-523-2022

Q Ilderton Dodge/Conversion Co. 701 S. Main St. High Point, NC 27261 336-841-6100 1.2.3

Q Mountain Adaptive/The Van Shop 35 Dogwood Rd. Asheville, NC 28806 828-670-1111 1,2,3

Stalls Medical, Inc. dba Adaptive Vans Inc. 5995-119 Chapel Hill Rd. Raleigh, NC 27607 919-233-0732

**Q Van Products**2521 Noblin Road
Raleigh, NC 27604
919-878-7110
1,3

#### **NEBRASKA**

Q Kohll's Mobility & Rehab Equipment 12729 Q Street Omaha, NE 68137 402-408-1330 1,2,3

Mobility Motoring LLC 14450 Meadows Blvd. Suite 2 Omaha, NE 68138 402-884-3333

#### **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Callahan Motor Cars 108 Lafayette Rd. North Hampton, NH 03862 603-964-1400

Q Ride-Away 54 Wentworth Ave. Londonderry, NH 03053 888-RIDE-AWAY 1,2,3

#### **NEW JERSEY**

Q Accessible Vans and Mobility 2303 Wallace Blvd. Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 856-829-9449

#### Q Brunswick Automotive Professionals

1500 US 1 North North Brunswick, NJ 08902 732-545-6300 1.2.3

#### Q Drive-Master

37 Daniel Road West Fairfield, NJ 07004 973-808-9709 1,2,3

#### Q Fun Truck'n Mobility

255 Route 46 West Saddle Brook, NJ 07663 973-546-1900 1,2,3

#### Q Monmouth Vans, Access & Mobility

5105 Rts. 33/34 Farmingdale, NJ 07727 732-919-1444 *1,3* 

#### Q Performance Van Shop, Inc.

1549 Gateway Blvd Woodbury, NJ 08096 856-848-3470 1.2,3

#### **NEW MEXICO**

#### **Highland Conversions LLC**

417 Adams St., S.E. Albuquerque, NM 87108 505-232-8629

#### Q New Horizon Vans, Inc.

3219 Candelaria, NE Albuquerque, NM 87107 505-884-2492 1,2,3

#### Southwest Lift Installation

315 B Juan Tabo Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87123 505-891-3346

#### **NEVADA**

#### **Q** Ability Center

6001 S. Decatur Blvd. Suite N Las Vegas, NV 89118 702-434-3030 1,3

#### Q Better Life Mobility Center

2695 S. Decatur Blvd. Ste 100 Las Vegas, NV 89102 702-876-9606

#### Nevada Seating & Mobility

7875 N.Virginia Unit E Reno, NV 89506 775-887-1955

#### **NEW YORK**

#### Q Abilities Unlimited of NY

90 E. Jefryn Blvd. Deer Park, NY 11729 800-664-8434 1.2.3

#### Accessible Mobility, LLC

11 Hillside Avenue Port Chester, NY 10573 203-869-4038

#### Q Advance Mobility

4214 Glenwood Road Brooklyn, NY 11210 718-253-1212 1,2

#### **Q** Agor Enterprises

1241 Erie Blvd. W. Syracuse, NY 13204 315-510-4272

#### Q Agor Enterprises, Inc

951 Panorama Trail South Rochester, NY 14625 585-385-2556

#### Q AutoCrafting Mobility

Soultions of Rochester LLC 997 Beahan Road Rochester, NY 14624 585-427-7220

#### Q Boulevard Van City

123

2708 Niagara Falls Blvd. Wheatfield, NY 14304 716-731-4335 1.2,3

#### Q Bussani Mobility

500 Central Ave. Bethpage, NY 11714 516-938-5207 1,2,3

#### Q Bussani Mobility

501 Concord Avenue Mamaroneck, NY 10543 914-835-8267 1.3

#### **Q** Craftsmen Mobility Systems

570 Hance Rd. Binghamton, NY 13903 607-669-4530

#### Q Fenton Mobility Products

1209 East Second Street Jamestown, NY 14701 716-484-7014 1,2

#### Q Main Mobility

9580 Main Street Clarence, NY 14031 716-759-6811 1,2,3

#### Q Mobility Services, Inc.

19-57 Steinway St. Astoria, NY 11105 718-267-2921 1.2

#### Q MobilityWorks

165 Freemans Bridge Rd. Scotia, NY 12302 888-473-5402 1,2,3

#### Q Penn York Mobility

69 Main St. Binghamton 13905 607-773-3622 1.3

#### Priority Van Sales, Inc.

732 County Route 24 Corinth, NY 12822 518-654-8308

#### Q Specialty Conversions, Inc.

615 Sunrise Hwy. West Babylon, NY 11704 631-321-4196 1,2,3

#### Q Tim's Trim, Inc.

25 Bermar Pk Rochester 14624 585-429-6270 1,2,3

#### OHIO

#### Q Columbus Mobility Specialists 6330 Proprietors Rd., Suite C

6330 Proprietors Rd., Suite ( Worthington, OH 43085 614-825-8996 *1,2,3* 

#### **Q** Key Mobility Services

1944 U.S St. Rt. 68 N. Xenia, OH 45385 800-539-5438

#### Q M.C. Mobility Systems

214 Valley St.
Dayton, OH 45404
937-222-5001

#### Q M.C. Mobility Systems

7588 Tyler Blvd Mentor, OH 44060 800-951-6238 1.2

#### Q M.C. Mobility Systems

7233 Industrial Pkwy Plain City, OH 43064 800-834-8301 1,3

#### Q M.C. Mobility Systems

10691 Reading Rd. Evendale, OH 45241 513-469-8220

#### Q Marietta Mobility

211 South 8th Street Marietta, OH 45750 800-690-4950 1,2,3

#### Q MobilityWorks

1020 Laskey Rd. Toledo, OH 43612 888-473-5402 1.3

#### Q MobilityWorks

12117 Princeton Pike Cincinnati, OH 45246 888-473-5402 1,3

#### Q MobilityWorks

810 Moe Dr. Akron, OH 44310 888-473-5402 1,3

#### Q Modified Vehicle Specialists

2705 Nebraska Avenue Toledo, OH 43607 419-535-1850 1,2,3

#### **OKLAHOMA**

#### Q Handi-Cap Aids Company

730 W. Hefner Rd. Oklahoma City, OK 73114 405-842-0511 1,2,3

#### Handicapped Vehicle Services Unlimited

7215 E. 46th St. Tulsa, OK 74145 918-622-8400

#### Q Newby-Vance Mobility

5632 S. Division Street Guthrie, OK 73044 405-282-2113 1.3

#### **OREGON**

#### Q All in One Mobility

12833 NE Airport Way Portland, OR 97230 503-255-5005 1

#### Q Mobility Access Options, Inc.

4822 Industry Drive Central Point, OR 97502-3286 541-245-4846 1,3

#### Q MPJ Mobility

3574 Marcola Road Springfield, OR 97477 541-726-4001 1,3

#### Q Performance Mobility

4347 NW Yeon Ave. Portland, OR 97210 503-243-2940 1,2,3

#### Q R & J Mobility Services, Inc.

155 "E" Street Independence, OR 97351 503-838-5520 1,2,3

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Q American Mobility Inc. 3494 Progress Dr., Unit H Bensalem, PA 19020 215-244-6600 1.2.3

Q Garnon Mobility Vehicles 1617 Peninsula Dr. Erie, PA 16505 814-833-6000

Q Keller Wheelchair Lifts 197 Main St. Luzerne, PA 18709 570-288-1004 1.2.3

Q Keystone Coach Works 4786 Library Rd. Bethel Park, PA 15102 412-833-1900 1.2.3

Q Keystone Mobility 5409 Locust Lane Harrisburg, PA 17109 717-901-3090 1,2,3

Q M.I.T.S. Corp. 11448 N. Main St. Ext. Glen Rock, PA 17327 717-235-5899

**Q MobilityWorks** 1090 Mosside Blvd. Wall, PA 15148 888-473-5402 1.3

Q Ride-Away

2460 General Armistead Ave. Ste. 100-150 Norristown, PA 19403 888-RIDE-AWAY 1,3

**Total Mobility Services** 7917 Derry St. Suite 124 Harrisburg, PA 17111 800-558-7408

Q Total Mobility Services, Inc. 4785 Penn Ave. Box 7 Boswell, PA 15531 814-629-9935 1,2,3

Q VCI Mobility 925 S. Trooper Rd. Norristown, PA 19403 610-666-9100 1,2,3

**Q VCI Mobility**6475 Ruch Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-837-0707
1,2,3

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Abacare Home Medical 8410 Rivers Avenue Suite E Charleston, SC 29406 843-797-5700

Q Carolina Mobility Sales LLC 3624 Fernandina Road Columbia, SC 29210 803-791-7791 1,3

Free Spirit Mobility & Home Medical 107 W. Wade Hampton Blvd. Greer, SC 29650 864-877-8566

Charleston LLC 1033 Wappoo Rd. Unit D Charleston, SC 29407 843-576-0414 1,2,3

Q Ilderton Conversion of

Q Southeastern Health Plus 11816 Hwy 17 Bypass Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 843-651-5795

#### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Black Hawk Vans** 3156 Haines Rd. Rapid City, SD 57701 605-342-2104

Q IMED Mobility 200 East 1st St. Tea, SD 57064 605-498-2200

> R & R Mobility Conversions 400 S. Marion Rd. Sioux Falls, SD 57106 605-335-8646

#### **TENNESSEE**

Q Apple Independence Mobility 306 N. Willow Ave. Cookeville, TN 38501 877-528-5788 1,3

Q Apple Independence Mobility 1152 Pine St. Lebanon, TN 37087 877-528-5788

Q HDS Vans & Mobility 1325 Mackey Branch Drive Chattanooga, TN 37421 423-308-8267 1.3

Q HDS VANS & Mobility 173 Industrial Dr. Lavergne, TN 37086 615-280-5058 1,3 Q Mountain Adaptive 3705 Bristol Hwy Johnson City, TN 37601 423-283-9111

1,3

Q Superior Van & Mobility 10640 Braden Dickey Lane Knoxville, TN 37932 877-405-9929

Tennessee Mobility 1015 S. Water Ave. Gallatin, TN 37066 615-451-7373

Q United Access 2165 Hillshire Circle Memphis, TN 38133 901-888-1010 1,2,3

#### **TEXAS**

Above & Beyond Mobility P.O. Box 132 Ben Wheeler, TX 75754 903-833-2639

Q Access 2 Mobility, Inc. 12406 SH 155 South Tyler, TX 75703 877-254-5438

Q Adaptive Driving Access 6836 N Sam Houston Pkwy W Houston, TX 77064 713-874-9100 1.2.3

Q Adaptive Driving Access 3430 E Sam Houston Parkway S Pasadena, TX 77505 281-487-1969 1,2,3

Q Advanced Mobility Systems of TX 2110 N. Beach Ft. Worth, TX 76111 817-429-1273 1.2.3

Q Advanced Mobility Systems of TX 3029 E. Meadows Blvd., A-2 Mesquite, TX 75150 972-270-7114 1,3

Q Alamo Mobility Inc. 6473 DeZavala Road San Antonio, TX 78249 210-697-8884 1,2,3

Q American Lift Aids 2310 Calder Beaumont, TX 77702 409-832-3400

Q American Lift Aids, Inc. 2407 W. Southwest Loop 323 Tyler, TX 75701 903-581-8844 1,2,3 Austin Mobility

15301 North IH 35, Suite A Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-436-0820

Auto & Home Mobility Solutions 8885 State Highway 21 East Bryan, TX 77808 979-589-2005

**Bek Medical, Inc.** 1239 Lafayette El Paso, TX 79907 915-599-1129

Interstate Mobility LLC 3325 S. Interstate 35 Waco, TX 76706 254-235-9935

**Lift & Go Mobility** 1070 Arion Circle, Suite 164 San Antonio, TX 78216 210-521-8157

Q Lift Aids, Inc. 1500 Westpark Way Euless , TX 76040 817-835-0035 1,2,3

> Marshall Mobility Plus 120 North 20th Street McAllen, TX 78501 956-971-8646

Q Mobility Headquarters of Texas 14300 NW Freeway Ste B-10 Houston, TX 77040 713-939-9922 1.3

Mobility Outfitters, Inc. 2601 Summit Avenue Ste 300 Plano, TX 75074 972-509-5233

Q Mobility Plus 1789 Upland Dr. Houston, TX 77043 713-468-4683

Mobility Unlimited P.O. Box 4534 Odessa, TX 79760 432-570-5079

**Q Open Road Mobility** 6103 Star Lane Amarillo, TX 79109 806-353-2747 1,3

**Q Open Road Mobility** 7411 - 82nd St. Lubbock, TX 79424 806-771-5873 1.2,3

**Para Driving Aids** 10624 N. IH 35 North San Antonio, TX 78233 210-655-5438

**Texas Medical** 4202 Santiago St. Suite 9 ,10 Austin, TX 78745 512-740-2095

The Mobility Store, Inc. 5544 Kostoryz Rd. Corpus Christi , TX 78415 361-814-5438

#### Q United Access of Dallas

175 E. I-30 Garland, TX 75043 972-240-8839 1,2,3

Valley Mobility Plus, Inc. 4614 N. Expressway 83 Brownsville, TX 78526 800-940-6505

#### **UTAH**

Alpine Home Medical

4030 South State Street Salt Lake City, UT 84107 801-463-0044

Q Freewheel Mobility

680 N. 1000 W, Unit 8 Centerville, UT 84014 801-294-0550

#### **VIRGINIA**

C & C Mobility, LLC

9577 Fletchers Chapel Rd. King George, VA 22485 877-325-7733

Q Independent Lifestyles

4880 S. Amherst Hwy Madison Heights, VA 24572 434-846-7510 1.3

#### Q M.I.T.S. of VA

2075 W. Main St. Waynesboro, VA 22980 540-932-7300

#### Q Mobility Center of VA

249-255 E. German School Rd. Richmond, VA 23224 804-231-7774 1.2.3

Q Mobility Plus, Inc. of Viriginia

323 South College Avenue Salem, VA 24153 540-389-3400 1,3

Q Ride-Away

6059 Virginia Beach Blvd. Norfolk 23502 888-RIDE-AWAY 1.3

#### Q Ride-Away

232 E. Belt Blvd., #100 Richmond, VA 23224 888-RIDE-AWAY 1,3

#### **VERMONT**

#### Q Ride-Away

5C David Drive Essex Junction, VT 05452 888-RIDE-AWAY 1.3

#### **WASHINGTON**

**Q** Absolute Mobility Center

21704 - 87th Ave. SE Woodinville, WA 98072 425-481-6546 1.2.3

Q Access Mobility Systems dba JDR Corporation

13011 Highway 99 Everett, WA 98204 425-353-6563

Q Goldenwest Mobility

1815 E. Francis Spokane, WA 99208 509-484-3842

**Q Kersey Mobility Systems** 

6015 160th Ave. E. Sumner, WA 98390 253-863-4744 1.2.3

Q Paul Parish Limited

6400 W. Okanogan Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336 509-735-9820 *1,3* 

#### **WISCONSIN**

#### Q A & J Mobility

4125 Terminal Dr McFarland, WI 53558 608-579-1500 1

Q A & J Mobility

333 Washington Street Valders, WI 54245 920-775-9333 1,2,3

Q A & J Mobility

2650 Prospect Drive Eau Claire, WI 54703 715-833-9830 1,3

Q A & J Vans dba A & J Mobility

3058 Helsan Drives Richfield, WI 53076 800-517-1024 1.3

Q Advantage Mobility

& Services, LLC

2833 Stanley St. Stevens Point, WI 54481 715-341-2712 1,2,3

#### Q GT Mobility and Services

844 Ontario Road Green Bay, WI 54311 920-491-8384 1,2,3

#### Q MobilityWorks

N8 W22195 Johnson Dr Ste. 130 Waukesha, WI 53186 888-473-5402 1,3

#### **WEST VIRGINIA**

Access & Mobility Products

302 Virginia Avenue Huntington, WV 25701 304-522-6808

Van Lifts Unlimited, Inc

RR 12 Box 283 Hurricane, WV 25526 888-727-2202

#### **WYOMING**

Frontier Access & Mobility Systems, Inc.

1207 E. Pershing Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82001 307-637-7663

#### **CANADA**

#### **ALBERTA**

**ECO Medical** 

18303 107 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5S 1K4 780-483-6232

#### **Mobility Plus Health**

& Home Care

10021 - 115 Ave. Grande Prairie, AB T8V 6P3 780-532-3511

Shoppers - H & H Care

#1-2720 - 12th St. NE Calgary, AB T2E 7N4 403-250-2200

**Shoppers Home Healthcare** 

8303-Gold Care Med 4619 - 91 Ave. N.W. Edmonton, AB T6B 2M7 780-468-4002

#### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Advanced Mobility Products** 

101-8620 Glenlyon Parkway Burnaby, BC V5J 0B6 604-293-0002

Can Am Mobility

158 Old Vernon Rd Kelowna, BC V1X 4R2 250-491-0003

Mahadev Metal Works & Fabrication

Unit 124-125 - 11071 Bridgeport Rd Richmond, BC V6X 1T3 604-270-3317

Medichair

#210-450 Lansdowne Street Kamloops, BC V2C 1Y3 250-571-1456

Medichair Nanaim

Unit 106, 2517 Bowen Rd. Nanaimo, BC V9T 3L2 250-756-9875

PG Surg-MED Ltd

1749 Lyon Street Prince George, BC V2N 1T3 250-564-2240

PG Surg-Med Ltd.

4204 25th Ave. Vernon, BC V1T 1P4 250-549-7288

Sidewinder Conversions & Mobility

44658 Yale Road West Chilliwack, BC V2R OG5 604-792-2082

The Rehab Shop

7-45905 Yale Road Chilliwack, BC V2P 2M6 604-792-2002

#### **MANITOBA**

Medichair Brandon/Portage 425 Pacific Avenue Brandon, MB R7A 0H3 1-204-727-6191

Northland Home Healthcare Products

865 Bradford St. Winnipeg, MB R3H 0N6 204-786-6786

#### **NEW BRUNSWICK**

Harding Medical Supplies 24 Elmwood Drive Moncton, NB E1A 3W6 506-855-5200

Q Malley Industries, Inc. 1100 Aviation Avenue Dieppe, NB E1A 9A3 506-859-8591

Shopper Home Healthcare 535 Edinburgh Dr. Moncton, NB E1E 4E3 506-388-9679

#### **NOVA SCOTIA**

Lawtons Home Health Care 90 Main Street Dartmouth, NS B2X 1R5 902-480-3590

#### **ONTARIO**

**Q** Courtland Mobility

1355 Artisans Court, Unit B Burlington, ON L7L 5Y2 800-354-8138 1,2,3

Creative Carriage Ltd

P.O. Box 600 St. George, ON NOE 1NO 800-392-8403

Golden Automobiles & Collision Center Ltd.

21, Clark Blvd. Brampton, ON L6W 1X4 905-455-5577

**Q Goldline Mobility & Conversions** 1759 Trafalgar St.

London, ON N5W 1X4 519-453-0480 1,2,3

Q Kino Mobility, Inc.

3-1140 Sheppard Ave. W. Toronto, ON M3K 2A2 416-635-5873 1,3

Q Kino Mobility, Inc.

645-C Newbold Street London, ON N6E 2T8 519-690-2300 Liftability, Inc.

2600 Lancaster Road Ottawa, ON K1B 4Z4 613-738-0454

**Lucanus Corporation** 

5 Furbacher Lane Unit #2 Aurora L4G 6W2 905-841-4122

MediChair Barrie

130 Bell Farm Road, Unit 13 Barrie, ON L4M 6J4 705-722-3376

Medichair Home Healthcare

1460 Bishop Street N Cambridge, ON N1R 7N6 519-623-9930

**Medichair Smiths Falls** 

260 Lombard St. Hwy 15 South Smiths Falls, ON K7A 5B8 613-283-5700

MEDIchair Temiskaming Ltd.

211 Armstrong Street New Liskeard, ON POJ 1PO 705-647-6886

Northend Mobility

301 Aquaduct St. Welland, ON L3C 1C9 905-735-5552

**Shopper Home Healthcare** 

202 Sparks Ave. Toronto, ON M2H 2S4 416-701-1351

**Shoppers Home Healthcare** 

2028 Dundas Street East London, ON N5V 1R2 519-455-4488

Q Sparrow Hawk Industries, Ltd.

675A Davenport Rd Waterloo, ON N2V 2E2 519-884-4295 1,2,3

Q Universal Motion

120 St. Regis Crescent South Toronto, ON M3J 1Y8 416-398-4255 1,2,3

Wilder Mobility Ltd. (Medical)

85 Northland Rd. Waterloo, ON N2V 1Y8 519-888-0618

#### **QUEBEC**

Adaptation 04 Inc.

3025 Girard Trois Rivieres, QC G8Z 2M4 800-372-0443

Centre Auto de Duberger, Inc.

2957 Blvd Pere Lelievre Quebec, QC G1P 2X9 418-683-4876 Centre d' Autonomie

399 Ave De La Friche Dolbeau-Mistassini, QC G8L 2T3 418-276-8336

Centre de L'auto St-Lambert

145 Damase-Breton St-Lambert-de-Lauzon, QC GOS 2WO 866-641-0419

Transmission Automatique Duchesne Inc.

2745 Boulevard du Royaume Saguenay, QC G7X 7V3 418-548-9099

Q TVR Technologies, Inc.

595 Lanaudiere Repentigny, QC J6A 7N1 888-919-2555 *1,2,3* 

Van Action

4870 Rue Courval Ville St-Laurent, QC H4T 1L1 800-668-8705

#### **SASKATCHEWAN**

Golden Mobility & Rehab LTD 2202 Hanselman Ave. Saskatoon, SK S7L 6A4 306-242-9060

Medichair Regina

3033 Saskatchewan Drive Regina, SK S4T 1H5 306-584-8456

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

Adaptacar Mobility Specialists Pathfield Business Park South Malton, Devon EX363LH 01769-572785

#### **QAP SCORECARD**

**TOTALS FOR JUNE 2011 - AUGUST 2011** 

## TOTAL QAP MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING:

227

New Applications: 17
Initial Accreditations: 9
Suspensions: 1
Reinstated: 2



### **CEO'S REPORT**

#### DAVE HUBBARD (NMEDA CEO/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)

Previously with ShowMax Marketing in California, Dave Hubbard took over the position of Chief Executive Officer for The National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association (NMEDA) during the summer of 2008. Dave's 28-year career includes working in Detroit in brand marketing for automotive manufacturers as well as advertising agencies. Concerns or questions for Dave may be directed to him at info@nmeda.org.

### Looking Ahead to 2012 - A New Fiscal Year.

little over a year ago NMEDA made its first trip to Washington D.C. to meet with key Congressional members and the Department of Veterans Affairs in an attempt to resolve the huge backlog of past due invoices owed to our dealer members. Since then we have had members of the VA, the VBA and the Paralyzed Veterans Association (PVA) join our VA/Government Relation Committee, which has managed to process nearly \$14 million in past due invoices. This effort has worked for both sides in that the NMEDA members are able to get their invoices paid and the VA is able to identify trouble spots that need special attention.

The overall problem of late payments still exists, but now we have a mechanism in place to help manage it. The amount of past due invoices sent in by our membership this past July is less than half of what we received after the first request in July of 2010. Over the past year we have also identified many other issues that need to be addressed. This was the reason for our most recent trip to Washington.

One of the most important issues is setting criteria for choosing a mobility dealer with whom the VA is willing to do business. The Department of Veterans Affairs requires a massive certification, JCAHO, just to sell a Veteran a bottle of oxygen or a bed, but there are absolutely no requirements in place for a business to install a high-tech, low resistance driving system to enable a Veteran confined to a wheelchair to drive a motor vehicle. *None*.

The VA has already explained that they won't require NMEDA or QAP as a dealer selection requirement because of potential legal liability issues, and in this day and age, we understand. However this does not mean they can't put selection criteria in place based on the mobility industry best practices. This would go a long way in eliminating the less than professional work performed by untrained individuals working out of their homes and mobile units.

VA buys direct from manufacturers, the manufacturer agrees to have it installed at a particular price. However, they may or may not be able to secure a qualified NMEDA dealer to install it. If this is the case then there needs to be a minimum level of requirements for the dealer selection to insure the safety and quality of the installation. This not only protects the Veteran, but also the taxpayer's investment.

NMEDA has approached Congress on this issue (and others) from both the House and Senate sides and we are working towards getting joint letters sent from several committees to the VA on our behalf urging them to enact these minimum standards.

As we begin heading into the new fiscal year working our way towards the National Conference in Phoenix, there are a number of challenges

# The overall problem of late VA payments still exists, but now we have a mechanism in place to help manage it..."

his issue ties hand-in-hand to the use of FSS list by the VA regions or individual facilities. As we understand it, the VA Central Office is promoting the use of these FSS listed suppliers as a cost efficient way to purchase mobility products and have them installed. When the

that NMEDA is facing in addition to dealing with the VA.

First, marketing:

It is the plan of the IPR Committee to continue its successful search engine campaign to generate visitors to the NMEDA website and Dealer Locator, which generated 10,377 visitors and 9,142 visitors per month, respectively. The goal for next year is 15,773 total website visitors and 13,896 Dealer Locator visits per month.

In addition, the Committee has charged EVOK, our advertising agency, with developing a broad based multi-media awareness approach that will not only reach out to a greater audience and generate increased awareness for the automotive mobility products available, but also increase the desire to use a NMEDA member dealer as their first choice for purchasing automotive mobility products at national and local levels.

The specific elements are being developed as of this writing and will be launched at the 2012 Conference. The beauty of the program is that it will include and involve every single member of NMEDA. Stay tuned for more to come.

hen mandatory QAP was voted in as a requirement of membership, we knew there would be some fallout in the ranks. Some were predicting as much as a 25% - 30% reduction in dues paying members. So far this is not the case. As of August, we are down approximately 12% and the decline seems to be slowing. However, even though NMEDA is declining some in numbers, it is growing stronger from within and, I believe, it will eventually regain its numbers with a new elevated stature in the industry, as seen by those who depend on us for critical products and services.

The businesses that have elected to drop their NMEDA membership and not pursue QAP are almost exclusively limited in the services and products they offer. Many are people who got in to the mobility business in the hopes of picking the low hanging fruit installing what they see as easy-to-sell commodity products.

QAP represents such a basic level of common sense in our business it's hard to believe anyone would resist participating if they were serious about helping people with disabilities and providing the safest most reliable products and services available.

and in some states PT's, a Continuing Education Unit (CEU) as an incentive to attend product and service meetings and/or Lunch-N-Learn sessions. Programs like these should be a part of every NMEDA dealer's grassroots marketing efforts.

# QAP represents such a basic level of common sense in our business it's hard to believe anyone would resist participating..."

his summer we added a new Quality Control Director, Bill Fredo, to the NMEDA staff and QAP will be one of his primary responsibilities. As part of that responsibility it will be his job to contact State Voc Rehab Departments and third party providers with the good news about QAP, what it stands for and what it means to the customers, as well as those who provide funding for automotive mobility products. The goal is to expand the list of States that currently require QAP (all 13 of them) by taking the time to meet with the Voc Rehab Departments and explain the benefits of working with NMEDA/QAP dealers. The goal is for them to set new standards for requiring QAP as an eligibility prerequisite to do mobility work in their State or Province.

Even the VA in Washington took notice when it was mentioned that all NMEDA members were now required to be QAP. All of these efforts combined with solid marketing will help to make NMEDA membership very desirable for any automotive mobility dealer.

The list of training programs available to NMEDA members continues to grow as we enter the new fiscal year. The one-hour CAMS presentation now has more than 75 trained presenters across the country. These trained members can now offer OT's,

It's interesting to note that some of our members have found innovative ways to use some of the online training programs available. Some use the Basic Electrical training course to establish a basic level of knowledge as part of the hiring process. Others have used the Guidelines training as an orientation tool for new hires and require it to be completed in the first 30 days of employment. There are a number of online programs available to the NMEDA membership for use as you see fit. We are always interested to hear how you are using the training programs available, as well as any training you might want to see developed in the future.

here is no question that the 2012 fiscal year will present several new challenges for all of us in NMEDA, but as in the past, I believe we are ready for them and can meet them head on. If any of you have any ideas you want to present for consideration, comments on what's going on in any given area or just want to check on the status of current projects you are interested in, please feel free to call us. The entire staff of NMEDA is here to serve you. As always my phone is always open, and if I am unavailable you will get a return phone call within 24 hours.

#### Good selling.

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#### **NMEDA NEWS BRIEF**

#### **Label Reporting Update**

Effective June 1, 2011 the Quality Assurance program now requires that all Individual Label Reporting forms be included with your Monthly Label Report form for RADCO. There seems to be some confusion as to where these reports are to be sent because we have been receiving some at NMEDA headquarters. Your Label Report summary and a copy of each individual label report you put in the customer's file are to be sent directly to RADCO.

As per the program requirements, you have until the 10th of the month to submit the previous month's reports.

RADCO has requested that you NOT FAX in the reports because their fax machine cannot handle the tremendously increased volume of documentation sent at the first of each month.

If you cannot scan and email the reports to RADCO (info@radcoinc.com) then mail them to:

**RADCO** 

Attn: Linda

3220 E. 59th Street Long Beach, CA 90805

Whatever you do, please DO NOT FAX the reports to either NMEDA or RADCO.

### NMEDA Guidelines: Where to Find Them in a Hurry

One of the most common deficiencies in a QAP audit is that the dealer does not have a copy of the current NMEDA Guidelines available for their technicians. You can quickly get the Guidelines without having to mess around with your User ID and password by going to <a href="https://www.nmeda.com">www.nmeda.com</a> and clicking on "Want to Become a Member- More Information" at the lower right corner of the home page; the Guidelines link is on the left side of the page that comes up.

#### **Need Scales?**

QAP requires that you have 4 corner scales. If you need scales you can get them from:

Intercomp

US: 800-328-3336

Worldwide: 763-476-2531

www.intercomp-racing.com

Longacre Racing

US: 800-423-3110

Worldwide: 360-453-2030

www.longacreracing.com

You need a minimum of 3000 lbs. capacity for each wheel pad and the printer option is recommended, if available.

## Last Chance... Win an iPad2

The NMEDA iPad2 giveaway has one quarter left. You have one more chance to win an iPad2. Whenever a customer purchases a vehicle or mobility equipment, remember to get them to fill out a quick survey form. Submit your survey forms at the end of the month to Evok Advertising at 1025 Greenwood Blvd., Suite 175, Lake Mary, FL 32746. That's all there is to it! The odds are definitely in your favor so don't forget to submit your forms. If you need more customer survey forms, please contact NMEDA at info@nmeda.org. (FYI: This program may be extended.)

#### Join Us for a Webinar!

Dealer Marketing Webinar: Search Engine Optimization

October 4, 2011 @ 1pm EST

October 13, 2011 @ 1pm EST

Join us to maximize your potential with both organic and paid SEO, along with other beneficial web site tips!

Register for this and other future webinars by visiting <a href="http://members.nmeda.org/members/membership-resources/">http://members.nmeda.org/members/membership-resources/</a>. You will need to log in to access the link.

You may also view our past webinar materials by visiting this site. PDF and video files are available in our complete webinar archive.





#### Follow us!

**Facebook:** Look for "National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association (NMEDA)" **Twitter:** @NMEDAcom (http://twitter.com/#!/NMEDAcom)

# Join Us in Welcoming Our New Quality Control Director, Bill Fredo

#### **Greetings from Bill Fredo...**

ello membership, I wanted to take a moment and thank you for the opportunity to serve each of you. It is a responsibility that I take very seriously and will work my very best every day. I join NMEDA with a career spanning over 20 years predominately in the automotive sector working within quality disciplines. This experience has provided me the opportunity to focus on improving the manufacturing of products and quality systems that produce those products.

I look forward to bringing this experience to improve NMEDA and implement specific goals and strategies. One such strategy is to expand into several new areas and strengthen the manufacturer compliance program as it provides a basis for manufacturers to showcase their products and demonstrate their compliance to the motor vehicle safety standards C/ FMVSS. We are also having greater participation from the manufacturers in the present categories as they see this program as a constructive method to certify their products to safety standards. We are in the process of developing wheelchair tie down restraints standards, as well as eventually expanding standards into additional product categories, such as full size vans, electric and manual seating systems.



Bill Fredo brings with him an extensive background in the automotive sector working within quality disciplines.

# I look forward to meeting and working with each and every one of the NMEDA members, suppliers and associates..."

nother goal is to manage the dealer QAP process within NMEDA and recommend improvements. I am committed to making the QAP an effective, userfriendly process. This process will include auditor training and qualifications, management reviews and consistency with audits from dealer to dealer. A specific enhancement that has already been discussed is adding a feedback process for dealers regarding the audits. I urge each and every dealer to take this opportunity to provide us with this feedback, both positive and negative, relating to their audit, as well as the general audit process.

These programs will strengthen the organization as they will always have an underlying "continuous improvement" theme. An effective quality system needs to have the core principle that focuses on continuous improvement.

Relationships with outside groups, are a vital part in continuing to increase NMEDA's QAP awareness and exposure working with state vocational rehabilitation facilities, government agencies, third party providers and healthcare professionals. I will continue to explore new areas and methods to promote our association and build relationships with these groups.

Lastly, I look forward to meeting and working with each and every one of the NMEDA members, suppliers and concerned associates. Please remember, I am only a quick phone call or email away.

Regards,

#### Bill Fredo

NMEDA Quality Control Director

#### **ALONG THE NEWSWIRE...**

# MobilityWorks Foundation and VMI Team Up With Cincinnati Mayor to Donate Wheelchair Accessible Van

antage Mobility International (VMI) and MobilityWorks have teamed up with Cincinnati Mayor, Mark Mallory, to help with the donation of a wheelchair accessible minivan for an area family. The van was presented to Arnneater Crawford and her son, Donté, on Tuesday, May 31, at 10 a.m. at Union Terminal in Cincinnati.

"Our team was moved by the compassion that Mayor Mallory showed for city employees when he was recently featured on the reality TV series, Undercover Boss," said Doug Eaton, president of VMI. "We were especially touched by his efforts to help Arnneater Crawford, a City of Cincinnati employee who's struggled to provide adequate transportation for her oldest son, Donté, who lives with Cerebral Palsy. We were very excited when we were given the opportunity to be a part of this donation."

Shortly following the episode airing, Mayor Mallory's office contacted Jeff Witt, General Manager of Mobility-Works (Cincinnati, OH) to help with a donation through their non-profit MobilityWorks Foundation.



In the picture (L to R): Arnneater Crawford, Mayor Mark Mallory, Monique McGivney (VMI), Jeff Witt (MobilityWorks) & Steven Crawford

"The mayor and his team visited our store to discuss the options available for the Crawford family," added Witt. "Throughout the process Mayor Mallory was attentive and genuinely concerned that the family get a vehicle that would be a long-term transportation solution for them. We agreed that a 2010 Town & Country with VMI's Northstar sideentry, lowered floor wheelchair accessible minivan would the best fit for the Crawfords."

The 2010 Town & Country with VMI

Northstar is a lowered floor wheelchair accessible minivan that includes a power in-floor ramp with unrestricted entry and exit, as well as greater interior maneuverability. A one touch remote allows effortless ramp deployment, while the PowerKneel™ gives a lower ramp van angle, making access easier.

"I'm grateful to Jeff and his team at MobilityWorks, as well as to VMI and the other local companies that have helped make a difference in the lives of the Crawford family," said Mayor Mark Mallory. "Our great city is built on the principles of giving back by serving others and helping our neighbors when we see them in need. I am thrilled that we are able to provide the Crawfords with a van that will allow them to spend more time with their son. This is going to impact their lives for years to come."

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#### George W. Hicks, P.E.

Traffic Accident Reconstructionist Modified Rehab Vehicle Inspector



4345 Teal Road Petersburg, MI 49270-9304 www.ingeniumservices.com 734.279.9345 tel 734.279.1788 fax gwhicks@umich.edu

# VCI Mobility Unveils Their Updated 2011 Buyers Guide

VCI Mobility has unveiled their updated 2011 Buyers Guide for individuals looking to buy a handicap accessible wheelchair van. The 2011 guide contains applicable key vehicle specification updates organized by vehicle and conversion manufacturer and includes:

- Where to Begin in the Mobility Van Buying Process
- Overview of Wheelchair Vans/Van Conversions Available
- Critical Features to Consider
- Wheelchair Van Comparison Charts

As a Braun vehicle dealer for more than 18 years, VCI Mobility's buyer's guide offers an overview of the five newest Braun conversions available, including the 2011 Honda Odyssey Entervan and the 2011 Dodge/Chrysler Entervan.

The 2011 Honda Odyssey Entervan features include a new ramp design and increased cargo storage, enhancing passenger comfort and ease of access. Voted best gas mileage for a minivan by the U.S. Department of Energy, the 2011 Odyssey has significantly improved fuel economy and boasts the boldest design on the market.

BraunAbility's 2011 Dodge/Chrysler Entervan conversions were redesigned to offer a refined and spacious interior that now features added space for the driver and front passenger. The Chrysler Town & Country was revamped to offer an upscale experience and incorporate a luxurious interior design. In combination with the Chrysler, the Dodge Grand Caravan now has an award-winning and high-powered v6 engine, giving drivers improved fuel efficiency and powerful performance.

All of the key components of the VCI Mobility Buyers Guide are available online at <a href="http://vanconinc.com">http://vanconinc.com</a>. In addition, a PDF version of the complete guide is also available for download.



Like peas and carrots, it just makes sense.

**Always look to your fellow NMEDA members first** when buying and selling automotive mobility products and services. As NMEDA members we all adhere to the NMEDA Guidelines helping to ensure the best possible business outcomes.



It just makes sense...

NMEDA members support NMEDA members.

For a complete list of NMEDA members, visit www.nmeda.com.



#### **ALONG THE NEWSWIRE...**

# Braun Launches 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan and Chrysler Town & Country Wheelchair Accessible Conversions

or nearly 40 years, Braun has worked to meet the mobility needs of the 4.3 million wheelchair users in the United States, including veterans, seniors, adults and children. Today, Braun announced the U.S. and Canadian market introduction of two new BraunAbility wheelchair conversion vans: the 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan and the 2011 Chrysler Town & Country.

The foundation of Braun's conversion is the 2011 model year vehicle update engineered by the Chrysler Corporation. For 2011, the Grand Caravan and Town & Country minivans were extensively redesigned to offer completely new, more upscale interiors, updated exterior styling, and a new V6 engine with enhanced performance and fuel economy. Horsepower increased substantially with highway fuel economy increasing slightly.

Braun offers the Dodge and Chrysler wheelchair van conversions with side-entry or rear-entry to address the wide variety of needs in the market-place. The most popular conversion is the side-entry model.

Braun's side-entry conversion includes a roomy interior with a flat, lowered floor. A powered entry/exit system consists of a wheelchair ramp, a sliding side door and a kneeling feature that reduces the ramp angle and makes the vehicle easier to enter and exit for wheelchair users. The conversion also includes Braun-designed Step and Roll front seats that are easily removable to allow a wheelchair

user to drive the vehicle (when equipped with hand controls) or ride in the front passenger position. For 2011, the side-entry conversion design also offers increased foot room for both the driver and front passenger.

Extensive testing of the converted vehicles by independent thirdparties ensures that these vehicles meet strict government safety standards in both the U.S. and Canada, while providing highly reliable transportation for Braun's customers.

"These great new vehicles demonstrate our ongoing commitment and dedication to meeting or exceeding customer needs. We are constantly challenging ourselves to develop conversions that provide our customers with greater driving freedom," said Braun President, Nick Gutwein. "Our customers can be confident that they'll have safe, reliable transportation for years to come."

Both vehicles completed safety testing in April, making Braun the mobility industry leader in safety with 37 validated vehicle platforms since 1991. The Dodge and Chrysler wheelchair vans passed all front, side and 50-mph rear crash tests. Braun leads the mobility industry with five different vehicle platforms receiving a "pass" rating within the lowered-floor side-entry minivans category.



The 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan



The 2011 Chrysler Town & Country

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The 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan and Chrysler Town & Country wheelchair van conversions are now available at more than 200 BraunAbility dealer locations throughout the U.S. and Canada. Visit <a href="www.braunability.com">www.braunability.com</a> for more information about these new models or to find a BraunAbility dealer.

# Vantage Mobility International (VMI) Wants Customers to Imagine Possibilities With Innovative New Website

antage Mobility International (VMI) has announced the launch of its state-of-the-art, interactive website designed to bring the excitement and freedom of owning a wheelchair minivan to users worldwide. VMI has introduced the new website as part of its year-long brand refresh campaign designed to reflect VMI as a contemporary, techsavvy and compassionate company.

"Through our new website, we're better able to communicate the latest products and trends with our dealers and customers," said Doug Eaton, president of VMI. "We're not just a mobility company; we help people live life to the fullest. Our customers have the freedom to travel anywhere, without the hassle of transporting their wheelchairs to and from an event or activity. We want everyone to imagine all the possibilities when purchasing one of our wheelchair conversion vans. It's not just a product we're offering: it's a way of life."

The website provides many new options, including a section to educate first-time buyers on the different wheelchair conversions available in the market. Customers can view VMI's inventory listing where they can choose different makes, models, years and colors, and request a price quote from a local VMI dealer. VMI is adding a fun, interactive "Build-A-Van" section where people can build their own VMI wheelchair van and also receive a quote from a dealer.

"Our new site is clean, fresh and very powerful," explained Monique McGivney, marketing manager for VMI. "Through each of our changes, we're keeping up with the needs of today's 'tech-savvy' buyers. From our robust product sections to the community page and daily VMI news updates, this site will help people choose the right product for their needs in a helpful atmosphere."

manufacturers, the 2011 Honda allocations are better than anticipated.

Through this website, consumers can check out our newly updated 2011 Honda Odyssey Northstar and Summit conversions that are continually being delivered to dealers nationwide. We hope customers are just as pleased with the new model year Hondas as we are."

# Through our new website, we're better able to communicate the latest products and trends with our dealers and customers..."

he community section allows constant interaction between VMI and customers through blogs, news, social media tools, such as Facebook and Twitter, and offers informative resources for wheelchairusers. An extensive product division is also a part of the new site and currently features the 2011 Honda Odyssey wheelchair van and the recently launched Fiorella F500 platform lift.

As part of the new website, we want to introduce our latest products as they become available," said McGivney. "Despite the tsunami's effect on Japanese automotive

VMI encourages all visitors to check out the latest updates to the website by visiting <a href="www.vantagemobility.com">www.vantagemobility.com</a>. Those wanting to learn more about VMI and its products can call the company at 800-348-8267.

"We want wheelchair-users to understand that they can have the freedom to do whatever they want," added Eaton. "Our vans will get them there."

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VMI has introduced a new website as part of its year-long brand refresh campaign.

#### ALONG THE NEWSWIRE...

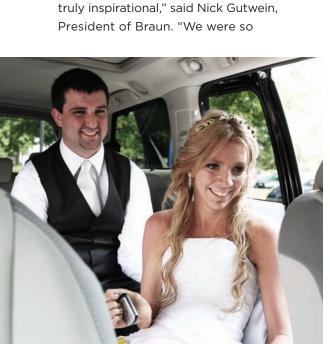
#### Newlywed **Paralyzed in Tragic Accident Gains** New Lease on Life

BraunAbility and Toyota Surprise Rachelle Friedman with Mobility Vehicle Donation

oyota Motor Sales USA and The Braun Corporation announced the surprise wedding day donation of a brand new 2011 Toyota Sienna with a BraunAbility Rampvan® XT conversion to Rachelle Friedman, who was paralyzed as a result of a tragic accident during her bachelorette party in May 2010.

BraunAbility and local mobility dealer Van Products Inc. had loaned 23-year-old Rachelle and her fiancé Chris Chapman a BraunAbility Sienna Rampvan® while they planned their wedding. Unbeknownst to them, plans were in the works for the ultimate surprise: the donation of a mobility vehicle to the couple as a wedding gift they could use for years to come.

"Rachelle's resolve and strength are





In the picture: Rachelle Friedman and Chris Chapman exit their new 2011 Toyota Sienna with a BraunAbility Rampvan XT conversion.

moved by her story that we wanted to help her not only while she planned for her wedding, but also as she moves forward in her married life."

"On behalf of Toyota Motor Sales, USA and Toyota Mobility, we are honored to share in this joyous occasion," Scott

> Heyer, Corporate Fleet/TRAC/ TCUV Manager, told Rachelle and Chris. "We hope this special gift will enrich your new life together and enhance your health and happiness today and in the future. Congratulations!"

> Rachelle had been using the loaned vehicle for wedding appointments and for travel between quad-rugby practices and tournaments, as well as therapy appointments. Until Van Products loaned her the vehicle, her mother had been carrying her in and out of her SUV.

"The van's made all the difference in the world," said

Rachelle. "Not only has it saved my mom's back, it's just made it so much easier to get out and do things. I've missed this level of comfort, convenience and independence. Next up... learning to drive on my own!"

Joe Garnett, Braun Director of Marketing and Dealer Programs, and Scott Heyer, Toyota Motor Sales Corporate Fleet/ TRAC/TCUV Manager, presented the 2011 Braun Toyota Sienna to Rachelle and Chris following the couple's wedding reception in Raleigh, NC.

Rachelle will keep the mobility community updated on her driving lessons via BraunAbility's online blog, AbilityVoice, at www.braunability.com/abilityvoice.

For more information about Van Products Inc., visit www.vanproducts.com, and for more information on Rachelle, visit www.rachellefriedman.com.

# Automobility Manufacturing Corporation Turns 20

By Peter Hillcoff

utomobility Manufacturing
Corporation is celebrating
20 years in the business of
manufacturing automotive hand
control systems and pedal extenders. We are proud to say we have also
been NMEDA members for 17 years.
Automobility started in 1991 with a
patented hand control system that
requires no vehicle modification to
install. Once you were familiar with
proper installation procedures, if it
took more than 30 minutes for an
installation, you were dogging it.

Automobility Hand Control Systems have changed a little over the years but we always stayed within our patent boundaries and tested to permanent standards, manufacturing our systems entirely out of stainless steel.

We have supplied all of the better car rental companies worldwide since the very beginning. The past two years have been extremely busy with Enterprise Rent-A-Car buying National and Alamo. We have been supplying Enterprise since they were a 'little' family-owned company out of St. Louis. Now they are a 'huge' familyowned company out of St. Louis and they have our systems at every location in the world. In fact, there is one car rental company that is still using the same sets of Automobility hand controls that they purchased 20 years ago and have been installed on hundreds of rental vehicles. Apparently, I didn't plan this obsolescence thing very well, seeing as they last forever. In all of these years (knock on wood)

we have never had a liability claim as the hand control will not fail, we have seen some poor installations, but that comes from an installer thinking he knows more than he does and not following instructions. You know, the guy that says, "I've been installing mobility equipment for years. I don't need to follow or read instructions. In fact, I know more than the manufacturer does." I have actually seen a mobility dealer install a set upside down and an engineer take two days to try and install a set on a Saturn.

I had to fly in to try and resolve the problem and eventually embarrassed the engineers when I installed them in 9 minutes. We have thousands of end-users that have our hand controls as their permanent hand control system and even reinstall them into their new car when they trade-in.

mately 15 years ago we also spun off a new company called Automobility Medical. Automobility is a registered Trademark worldwide and we have 32 Patent claims on the products that we manufacture, so for the folks out there who are infringing remember this.

Automobility Medical is a DME distributing company that distributes a number of product lines. Our main one is MERITS. We have held the Merits full line product rights for all of Canada for 15 years and, as we are now opening US stores and offices, we will be extending pricing and service to US Dealers.

Our youngest daughter, Shontell, has been looking after our manufacturing company while our oldest daughter, Sherri, has just joined the medical side of the company. My wife, Janis, and I are working the Southern United

# Celebrating 20 years in the business of manufacturing automotive hand control systems and pedal extenders..."

designed and developed our pedal extenders when ADA advocates went after the car rental industry for not supplying them when a short driver rented a car and had to sit too close to the airbag. The Automobility Extenders are adjustable and can be set at 2", 3" or 4" so that the driver can have them adjusted to their comfort and safety level. Short stature drivers that have to sit too close to the wheel not only risk having the airbag blow up in their face but sit in a position where vehicle blind spots may be prevalent and sometimes don't realize it until it is too late.

We also have a new left foot pedal coming out, as well as a spinner knob that we are having made for us by Spin Master in Australia. ApproxiStates, calling on our dealers and distributors and doing trade shows. We are planning to continue to do so, and operate out of our US headquarters in Florida.

We started out in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada in a 1200 square foot facility that has grown to a 30,000 square foot facility. Our intentions are to do the same in Florida with some new products under development and we plan to never have to shovel snow again. Stay tuned for the next 20 years.

Visit us at www.automobility.ca.

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#### **ALONG THE NEWSWIRE...**

# Harmar Announces the Next Generation of Their Outside Vehicle Lift Line

Already synonymous with quality, durability and safety, Harmar's premium vehicle lifts feature new automotive-inspired aesthetics and enhancements.

armar Mobility is pleased to announce significant enhancements to the most popular outside lifts in the world. With over 15 years of experience and tens of thousands of outsiders on the road, establishing the industry benchmark and exceeding customer expectations are "The Harmar Difference."

The refinements to the outside vehicle lift line offer our customers the most advanced features including:

- Redesigned aluminum platform
  - New styling improves looks and complements the vehicle's appearance. The new pattern also

Harmar v must 3

Harmar's premium vehicle lifts feature new automotive-inspired aesthetics and enhancements.

increases platform strength and adds rigidity while maintaining Harmar's class leading overall lift weight. The new manufacturing process also creates improved surface traction when driving onto the platform in wet conditions and includes a new reflector.

 All new control box - A newly designed control box better matches today's contemporary vehicles, is constructed with  Harmar Blue - Everywhere the customer touches to operate the lift has been updated and color coordinated in Harmar Blue to make the simplest operations even easier.

Chad Williams, President and CEO states, "The latest generation of outside lifts represents Harmar's determination to continuously improve upon our products in order to provide our customers the absolute best mobility and accessibility

# The refinements to the outside vehicle lift line offer our customers the most advanced features..."

superior material, has greater serviceability, and now includes a courtesy light for loading and unloading at night.

- Lighter, stronger, slimmer inner tube and platform connection
  - The new design eliminates unnecessary weight and bulky appearance while greatly improving component strength. Less weight on the vehicle hitch improves
    - driving dynamics and payload capacity, allowing for more vehicle and chair solutions.
    - Updated cam Simpler yet stronger, the new design is completely maintenance free for years of trouble free use.
    - Enhanced powder
       coat finish A more
       modern textured black
       powder coat combines
       with new graphics and
       labels to offer a main stream, automotive
       quality aesthetic.

solutions with the highest of safety standards possible. I'm very proud of how far the outside lift line has come and fully expect the world's most popular vehicle lift product line to become even more popular with this launch."

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#### **About Harmar:**

Harmar delivers innovative solutions to help individuals enhance their mobility, independence and quality of life with every product. Available only through the finest dealerships around the world, Harmar's mobility and accessibility products are designed, built and supported to be the highest quality, most reliable and best value in the industry. All Harmar products are built with "The Harmar Difference" - they are simpler, stronger, lighter and easier to use. For further information about the Company please visit our website, www.harmar.com or call 800-833-0478. For product details, contact your Harmar dealer today.

#### VMI Makes Buying the Re-Designed Chrysler & Dodge Conversions Easier with Down Payment Incentive

antage Mobility International (VMI) is helping customers purchase a new Chrysler/
Dodge VMI Northstar conversion with a special \$1,000 rebate incentive that can be used as a down payment option.
The promotion will end Oct. 31, 2011.

"Our Chrysler/Dodge conversion minivans, including the 2011 re-designed Town & Country and Caravan, can be purchased with our most popular in-floor ramp, the Northstar," commented Doug Eaton, president of VMI. "We're giving our customers access to this great technology through a special rebate promotion. For a limited time, any VMI customer is eligible to receive \$1,000 cash, which can be applied toward their down payment. Or, they can use the rebate to put some extra spending cash in their pockets. This is our way of helping customers get into

a vehicle that helps restore their independence and freedom."

"Our Chrysler and Dodge conversion minivans are among our most popular models," noted Eaton. "Though they fit in a traditionally lower price point, they don't sacrifice on safety. In fact, during recent federal safety testing, VMI received 'Pass' ratings on our Chrysler/Dodge models for the 50 mph rear impact collision, 33.5mph side impact collision, 35mph frontal impact and Seating Systems and Seat Belt Assembly, which includes wheelchair anchorages."

\_

For a limited time, any VMI customer is eligible to receive \$1,000 cash, which can be applied toward their down payment..."

Additional information on the VMI Chrysler/Dodge conversion minivan promotion is available at <a href="http://www.vantagemobility.com/promotions/">http://www.vantagemobility.com/promotions/</a>.

Key features on the re-designed 2011 Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan Northstar conversions, which are now available through VMI dealers nationwide, include:

- Additional interior space for wheelchair maneuverability.
- Obstruction-free doorway allows easy entry/exit for able-bodied passengers.
- Reduced conversion wear. (No need to deploy ramp for able-bodied passengers.)
- Clean, uncluttered vehicle interior.
- Less dirt and debris from ramp in vehicle interior.
- Wider usable ramp surface.
- Easy access to all interior buttons, handles and switches.
- · Full use of front passenger seat.
- No squeaking or rattling from ramp.
- Ramp stowed safely under floor in the event of a collision.
- Deployable on curbs up to 10" in height.

#### NO LIMITS & S. Inc.

#### BATTERU SAVER

With the addition of mobility equipment, such as lifts, and interlocks (required by FMVSS 403), the demands on your vehicle's battery can discharge it in a matter of days! Return your vehicle to the FACTORY level of current draw each time you lock the door with the FACTORY remote or internal door lock switch. Each time you unlock your door, the equipment is immediately powered up.

Call (530) 514-1825 to locate a Dealer near you.



Call for specific vehicle applications.

For Information contact: NO LIMITS L&S INC. P.O. Box 7295 Chico, CA. 95927-7295

www.nolimitslsinc.com

Phone (530) 514-1825 or Fax: (530) 343-3897

#### **ALONG THE NEWSWIRE...**

# OPERATION PAVE

### PAVING ACCESS FOR VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

fter a catastrophic injury, such as paralysis or loss of limb, you may think finding a job or having a career is impossible. But through Operation PAVE, the vocational rehabilitation program of Paralyzed Veterans of America, veterans who have suffered a catastrophic injury receive the resources and services needed to reenter and succeed in the 21st century workplace.

The national unemployment rate for veterans with severe disabilities has been estimated to be more than 85 percent. Operation: PAVE aims to make this grim statistic a thing of the past by unleashing a veteran's talent, potential and determination, honed through their military training and service.



© Roza | Dreamstime.com

Operation: PAVE provides veterans with severe injuries all the tools you need to reenter the job market and be successful in a new career—disabilities training, career counseling, educational assistance. And we don't stop there, we will match you with businesses and organizations with vacant positions that fit your interests and abilities.

Since its inception in 2007, this innovative vocational rehabilitation program has empowered hundreds of veterans with severe disabilities—many of whom are veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom—by helping them return to the workforce.

### HOW PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA OFFERS ASSISTANCE:

- Assistance throughout the process by Certified Rehabilitation Counselors.
- Career counseling and preparation during medical rehabilitation.
- Consultation with medical rehabilitation professionals to align employment expectations and rehabilitation goals.
- Pre-vocational skills and employment training tailored to overcoming any disability-related issues.
- Assistance connecting to available resources, such as education and training programs, transportation solutions, etc.
- · Case-management services.
- Local resources to bridge gaps in needed services.
- Job-seeking skills training, résumé development, job placement and follow-up.
- Access to a network of employers eager to provide career jobs for veterans with severe disabilities.
- Links to our extensive network of National Service Officers and local chapters for outreach, referral, and peer counseling.

#### PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA PAVE OPERATION EMERGING NETWORK

#### Regional facilities to serve you:

- Richmond, Virginia
   Christina Mousel: (804) 675-5155
- Minneapolis, Minnesota
   James Arndt: (612) 629-7021
- San Antonio, Texas
   Keisha Wright: (210) 699-5300,
   ext. 10148
- Long Beach, California
   Joan Haskins: (562) 826-8000,
   ext. 4607
- Boston, Massachusetts
   Ken Lipton: (857) 203-6091
- Augusta, Georgia
   Roger Hickson: (706) 733-0188,
   ext. 2875

#### **CONTACT US**

To find out more information about how Operation: PAVE can assist with your employment goals, contact a rehabilitation counselor at the office nearest you, or call the Paralyzed Veterans' Veterans Benefits Dept:

Voice: 800.424.8200 TTY 800.795.4327 Email: info@pva.org

#### **OUR PARTNERS**

Paralyzed Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Program was established through an innovative public-private partnership between Paralyzed Veterans, corporate partners, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

# ATOM-JET GROUP Premieres the AJILITY LIFT

armers and heavy machinery operators with disabilities have a new tool to help them remain mobile and continue farming.

The AJILity Lift hydraulic arm is designed to help disabled people get into farm implements, industrial equipment, aircraft and virtually any other raised vehicle or platform.

Mounted in the back of a standard pick-up truck, the AJILity Lift offers people with disabilities the ultimate safety, versatility and independence. With the use of remote control units, anyone can learn to operate the AJILity Lift – completely unassisted. The smooth, hydraulic operation allows for infinite movement and delicate maneuvering up to a height of 7 feet, 8 inches and a lateral distance of 10 feet, 11 inches while safely carrying weight of up to 750 lbs.

While the AJILity LIft was originally designed for use by disabled farmers, the possibilities for use by other segments of the population are almost unlimited. With respect to the lift's agricultural uses, it provides access to all known makes and models

of self-propelled farm machines which means the disabled farmer needs to purchase just ONE lift for use with ALL machinery. The platform can be modified as required for various situations, wheelchair models and industries.

The AJILity Lift was professionally designed and constructed using every safety factor currently recommended by C.S.A. Standards relating to similar products, such as manlifts, wheelchair lifts, cranes, etc. All moving parts have been designed for long-term service, backed by a 2-year warranty.



© PHOTO COURTESY OF ATOM-JET

From the door to the vehicle, like never before!

# The AJILity Lift offers people with disabilities the ultimate safety, versatility and independence..."

For more information or to represent this new product, call Atom-Jet at 1-800-573-5048 or email <u>bobcotton@atomjet.com</u>. Visit us online at <u>www.atomjet.com</u> to see videos of the lift in action.

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© PHOTOS COURTESY OF ATOM-JET

Farmers and heavy machinery operators with disabilities have a new tool to help them remain mobile and continue farming.



## NATIONAL MOBILITY EQUIPMENT DEALERS ASSOCIATION SUPPLY ORDER FORM

To purchase the items below, fill out the order form and fax it to NMEDA at 813-962-8970. An invoice with the amount of purchase and shipping charges will be sent along with the order.

Item	Price	Qty	Total
Consumer Reference Guide to Purchasing Adaptive Vehicles and Equipment:			
United States Version	.50		
Canadian Version (Includes Français Translation) ***Pack of 20 Guides***	20.00		
NMEDA Dealership Promotional/Showroom Brochure "Look for This Symbol!"	.20		
NHTSA - Adapting Motor Vehicles for Older Drivers Brochure	N/C		
NHTSA - Make Inoperative Labels	.25		
Tire Placard Labels	.50		
Load Carrying Capacity Labels	.50		
Wheelchair Logo Pin	2.50		
NMEDA Logo Sticker (2 per sheet)	Set - 5.00		
NMEDA Average Price Survey (Conducted in 2009)	50.00		
QAP Logo Sticker:	1.50		
NMEDA Comprehensive Automotive Mobility Solutions (CD Presentation)	1.25		

<b></b>	instructions / Comments	TOTAL:	
	Company Information	n	
Contact Person:			
Business Name:			
Address:	City:	State: Zip _	
Ph: ()	Fax: () E	-mail:	
	Fax or mail completed for NMEDA, 3327 W. Bearss Ave. Tampa, FAX: 813-962-8970, PH 800-833-0427 wv	FL 33618	11/04/10

**Special Instructions / Comments** 





WHEELCHAIR DOCKING SYSTEMS

#### The Key to Your Mobility Freedom...

For those who rely on a wheelchair as seating in their vehicle, the EZ Lock system is the absolute best solution for travel safety and security.

The EZ Lock Wheelchair Docking System easily secures a wheelchair to the floor of your vehicle for safe, efficient, and comfortable travel. The EZ Lock system's ease of use also saves you both time and effort in meeting your mobility needs.

Even better, the automatic docking base allows the user to lock the wheelchair into place without the assistance of others. Just roll the wheelchair into position, put on your seat belts, and you're ready to go.

The EZ Lock system is perfectly suited for both wheelchair seated passengers and drivers, and accommodates many different wheelchairs.

For more information about the EZ Lock Wheelchair Docking System, check our website at www.ezlock.net

**Durable All Steel Construction** 

**Dependable Electronics** 

**Time Proven Performance** 

For Power & Manual Wheelchairs

Check our web site or call toll free to find an authorized EZ Lock Sales & Service provider in your area.

(888) 952-5625

EZ Lock Incorporated 2001 Wooddale Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70806-1516 Toll Free: (888) 952-5625

Fax: (866) 297-1320 email: info@ezlock.net web site: www.ezlock.net

# 13

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THE WORLD'S MOST ADVANCED

ERSONAL DCKING SYSTEM



# FEATURE OFFICIAL'SET LIST:

- EXTENSIVELY CRASH TESTED: FORWARD, REARWARD & NOW SIDEWAYS.
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- FLUSH SURFACE NO MORE SNAGS!
- REDUCED FOOTPRINT:
  SAME HOLES, LESS SPACE & MORE MANEUVERABILITY.
- TAPERED CHANNEL:
- SLEEP FUNCTION:
- LOW CURRENT DRAW:
- SCREW-TERMINAL CONNECTORS: STOP CRIMPING, SOLDERING & WASTING TIME!

- REDUCED ELECTRICAL:
  LESS COMPONENTS = MORE RELIABILITY.
- PLUG & PLAY SERVICEABILITY:
  GET BACK ON THE ROAD QUICKLY.
- ECO-FRIENDLY STEEL COATING:
- CUSTOMIZE AND INCREASE YOUR PIN CLEARANCE.
- SMART (ECM):
  DEFINITELY SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER.
- OVER-TORQUE PROTECTION: BYE-BYE LIABILITY.
- HEAT-TREATMENT
  - REMOVABLE COVER

FOR ALL THE LATEST & GREATEST HITS. GO TO:

**QSTRAINT.COM** 





#### **Designed by you, manufactured by Harmar.**

Over a decade of experience, 100,000 test cycles and invaluable input from our esteemed dealers have combined to create a new standard in Inside Lifts.

Design innovation is backed by truly exceptional customer service and support, including a database that manages over four million vehicle/chair applications.

There's never been a better time to experience the Harmar Difference!



## **NMEDA Contact Information Audit**

In an effort to improve NMEDA membership communications, we would like to reconfirm your contact information currently in our database, make any corrections required and additional contacts based on job discipline (sales, technical and administration). You may add as many or as few contacts as you want.

Designated Rep (as note	ed on application or update here):					
$\square$ Same as on record	☐ Change to:	Email:				
☐ Would like to receive	e all NMEDA Communications					
Owner (voting member w	rith fiscal responsibility, as noted on appli	cation or update here):				
☐ Same as above	☐ Change to:	Email:				
☐ Would like to receive	e all NMEDA Communications					
☐ Would like to receive	e only critical communications (votin	g, QAP status, etc.)				
Sales Contacts: (optiona	I)					
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Technical Contacts: (opt	tional)					
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Administration Contact	s: (optional)					
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
Name:	Email:	Phone:				
as directed, and provide personnel, Technical Bu	e relevant information to the sub-gro	mary and/or NMEDA Member contacts oups (i.e. Sales Training information to sales dditional people to the contact list, simply e sheet and fax it to NMEDA.				
Please also provide	the following:					
Your Name: Company Name:						
City: State: Phone:						

#### **TECHNICIAN'S CORNER**

## **Battery Service Procedures**

mproper jump-starting of batteries is one of the three leading causes of accidental blindness among males in this country over the age of 15.

When batteries are being charged, they may give off hydrogen gas. This colorless, odorless gas is highly explosive; even a small spark can ignite it. During normal operation, only small amounts of hydrogen are produced, and normal airflow under the hood ventilates it sufficiently. But any time a heavy charger is used, or when another battery is connected, as for a jump start, there's a danger of abnormally heavy hydrogen

once in service. If the level is low, add distilled water only. If the battery is cold or low on charge, do not add fluid above the top of the plates: the fluid will expand as it warms up and as it absorbs a fresh charge.

Battery replacement, or even "simple" disconnection, has become anything but simple. The hard part, of course, is not really the actual removal of the cable from the battery but the reinitialization of various systems and modules afterwards.

Heavy corrosion at the battery terminals should be cleaned before assessing a battery's condition. We don't want to lose a half-hour on reinitialization procedures every time we clean a terminal, so a "memory saver" of some sort should be utilized. Remember that a memory saver

fasteners for access and for deeper cleaning. The battery terminals themselves also need to be cleaned. Use a wire brush to remove only the outermost oxidized layer of material. If there's any sign of dampness on the battery case, use a damp rag with a hot water and baking soda solution to wipe it clean, being careful to keep any of the solution from entering the vents or the battery cells.

A chemical treatment on the terminals may be used to protect the terminals once they're cleaned.

Parts stores generally carry two different classes of replacement battery cable end terminals. The so-called temporary repair terminals are cheap and easy to install. These are designed solely for temporary use and should never become a permanent installation. Left on the car, they inevitably become a breeding ground for corrosion. A much better and permanent solution is the crimpable or solderable cast terminal. A professional grade kit with crimping tool, cable cutter and skiving knife allows you to offer customers a topnotch repair at a fraction of the cost of cable replacement.

Cast terminals, including some specialty terminals for custom applications, are available from many parts stores.

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Have some valuable tips for technicians? Send your tech tips and tricks for the Circuit Breaker to <a href="mailto:rmorton@monvans.com">rmorton@monvans.com</a>.

## Batteries are potentially dangerous so a smart technician should follow proper procedures when working with them..."

production. There's also usually a small spark as the last connection is completed. This is why we're always told to make our last connection to ground, away from the battery of the car to be jumped. Eye protection is a must. Many newer jump boxes feature an On/Off switch to avoid sparks if the cables are connected directly to the battery. Leave the switch off until the cable clamps are in place.

Wearing vinyl or rubber gloves avoids the burn and that slimy feeling of battery acid.

As you begin your battery inspection, look for cracks, leaks, bulges or distortions. Make sure the hold-down is secure and that the electrolyte reaches at least to the top of the plates in each cell. Never add electrolyte (battery acid) to a battery

keeps the positive cable "hot" at all times, so use appropriate care to prevent its coming into contact with ground at any time during the service procedure.

The biggest chunks of corrosion should be cleaned off first, then with the battery terminals disconnected, use baking soda and hot water to clean the cable ends. Each end should be cleaned separately to avoid shorting out the memory minder circuit.

Repeat with a fresh solution as needed until there are no more bubbles, then follow up with a quick rinse in clean water and a light wire-brushing.

In the case of side post cable terminals, or where the main terminal is bolted to the cable end, it may be necessary to remove the terminal

## **Staying Connected**

## Interrupting battery power is unavoidable sometimes

Many air bag systems, for example, simply cannot be safely disarmed without first disconnecting the battery. There's no room for cheating here. Using a memory saver can literally be fatal. Likewise, starter or generator replacement may require disconnecting the battery to prevent otherwise unavoidable short circuits and melted wiring. But modern vehicles are now equipped with a wide array of electronic devices, many of which may lose memory when battery power is interrupted. The consequences range from very mild (clocks and radios may need to be reset) to more severe (learned adaptive values like idle speed, base throttle position or crankshaft profile may result in stalling or poor driveability).

Among the more unpleasant consequences may be radios that go into lockout mode and that cannot accept antitheft code inputs because they have a tape or CD inside. There are also confirmed instances of non immobilizer-equipped vehicles "deciding" that they are now so equipped, necessitating, in some cases, PCM replacement. Other vehicles may require reinitializing electronic throttle bodies, steering angle sensors, yaw sensors, HVAC systems and the like, sometimes requiring specialized equipment. Researching the subject before beginning the battery disconnect procedure is your best bet for avoiding unpleasant surprises from what should be a "simple" job.

During many services, it's quite possible to avoid these consequences using an appropriate memory saver, coupled, if necessary, with removing or disconnecting certain main fuses. Using your jump box's main cables for this purpose is not recommended. Better by far is using a fused adapter between the jump box lighter socket and two small gauge wires with alligator clips connected to the car at points away from the anticipated work area. Make sure the fuse you select for this purpose will have enough current-carrying capacity to allow you to open a door and power up the courtesy lights without popping, but not a high enough rating to allow any wiring to melt before it blows. For most purposes, a 10- to 20-amp fuse should be fine. Use caution, refer to an accurate wiring diagram and inspect the vehicle's electrical system thoroughly for any added or modified electrical devices or wiring.

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## Experts Now! Partial Features Include...

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- · Foot Steering
- Left Foot Gas Pedals
- · Wheelchair Lifts

- Porch Lifts
- Steering Devices
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- · Complete Van Conversions
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INNOVATION

#### YOUR TRAINING SOURCE



# What Training Opportunities Does NMEDA Have to Offer?

By Pete Lucas

MEDA's Education & Training Committee offers many opportunities for you and your staff to increase your productivity and profitability. Here's a summary:

#### **Onsite Training Team**

(Russ Newton, Mike Martin)
This project team helps dealers by
providing convenient hands-on training opportunities in various regional
lcoations throughout the year.

best practices for certification.

The MSS also gives dealers scaled, bundled training access while allowing smaller manufacturer presenters the opportunity to work with current and future customers. In addition the Onsite Training Team hosts an annual hands on Advanced Electrical Training Part 2 course as a sequel to the required ET Online Part 1 course. This year's Part 2 is tentatively scheduled for Nov.7-8 at Braun West in Phoenix.

#### Professional Business Training Team (PBT)

(Justin Riendeau, Ron Dries, Mike Martin, Patti Thornberg, John Eslinger, Randy Schiller)

The PBT team's mission is to expand NMEDA's online training capabilities by identifying "low hanging fruit" opportunities that can be most effectively addressed collaboratively and online.

After surveying NMEDA member dealers, the group discovered a clear need to help dealers learn how to increase operational efficiency and profitability. A free webinar is scheduled for Aug. 16 & 19 on "One-Stop Shop Model" followed by Part 2 "More Productive Techs" in September. The team also

(ETO Part 1) and Dealer Sales Training (DST). Since inception ETO Part 1 and DST have graduated more than 600 trainees. These foundational online courses save Dealers on average \$1000 in reduced travel and lost billable hours. The online courses also save Manufacturers from the expense of providing remedial instruction.

#### **CAMS-HP Team**

(Mike Shipp, Liz Green, Kathie Regan, Kent Mann, Mary Sauer, Leah Belle)
This team seeks to increase NMEDA awareness & involvment in the strategic Health Professional community through accredited CEU training courses. The full day Regional CAMS-HP course is available from 8 certified trainers in the US and Canada. The regional course counts for 7 AOTA and ADED contact hours, 7 Case Manager contact hours and .6 RESNA CEU on request.

The CAMS-HP Lunch & Learn version of the course is an extremely popular 1.5 hour version taught by trained NMEDA Dealer members. To date, 73 NMEDA dealers have been trained to give the Lunch & Learn version with 32 trainings scheduled across the US and Canada in 2011 and with 226 attendee certificates awarded so far this year.

## I NMEDA offers many opportunities for you and your staff to increase your productivity and profitability..."

This year we have organized Manufacturer Service Schools (MSS) in metro Philadelphia (last April, hosted by Accessible Vans & Mobility), metro Seattle (last July, hosted by Kersey Mobility) and coming this October in St. Louis (hosted by United Access).

These schools give technicians the opportunity to learn multiple manufacturer installation, diagnostic and product

will discuss and review various 3rd party vendor sources that we could collaborate with to deliver training on Best Practices, Personnel Management, Inventory Control, Business Planning, Advanced Sales, etc.

In addition to new webinar training opportunities, this team also manages NMEDA's online training library including Electrical Training Online Part 1 In addition the CAMS-HP Lunch & Learn course is good for 1 AOTA and ADED contact hour and is accredited by Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Oregon State Physical Therapist Associations for 1 CEU.

#### **NMEDA Certification Team**

(Mike Murphy, Bill Fredo, Kristen Clevidence)

**Education & Training Committee is** 

collaborating with NMEDA staff and QAP committee to explore the possibility of a future NMEDA certification pathway. The goal of this process would be to increase the value and credibility of QAP participation. In the meantime, this team will update current NMEDA QAP online courses 1-2-3 to reflect recent changes.

#### Dealer Marketing Team (DM)

(Jannette Conrad, Ray Morton, Jenna DeTrapani, Monique McGivney, Cheryl Parker)

The DM team exists to find ways to increase the value of NMEDA membership especially for smaller Dealers. These Dealers require less expensive, more convenient training opportunities, tracking & do-it-yourself marketing tools to expand their customer base.

In response, the DM team has conducted a 6-part Marketing Tools Webinar series to help Dealers quickly learn new & low cost technologies to help increase sales. In 2011, about 200 attendees have joined the team for one of three webinars offered in January, April, & July. The next free webinar is scheduled for October on Search Engine Optimization.

In addition, the DM team has developed Training Tracker and Training Calendar online tools for dealers to better track industry training opportunities.

For our complete web site listing of training opportunities and registration information visit NMEDA's Member Site at http://members.nmeda.org/.

For more information contact Pete Lucas at <a href="mailto:pete@nmeda.org">pete@nmeda.org</a>.

## **NMEDA Training Opportunities**

#### For Technicians

Electrical Training - Part One Online Anytime!

Basic Electrical Concepts.

**Electrical Training - Part Two TBA** 

Hands-on Electrical Training.

**Manufacturer Service Schools** Onsite

Classroom and Hands-on Product Training St Louis (Oct. 2011)

#### For Members and All Staff

**Dealer Sales Training** Online Anytime!

Primer on Mobility Industry players, products, medical awareness and sales best practices.

**QAP 1 - Introduction** Online Anytime! (No Cost!)

Explains many benefits Dealers will realize from QAP and gives details on the quick 6-step enrollment process.

QAP 2 - Audit Preparation Online Anytime! (No Cost!)

Step by step guide through the QC Manual, pre-inspection preparation, and post-inspection accreditation.

QAP 3 - Guidelines Training Online Anytime! (No Cost!)

"How-to" guide on understanding and implementing NMEDA Guidelines best practices. Certificate upon completion by request.

#### For Healthcare Professionals

For .7 CEU credit course designed for CDRS, OT, and other professionals on key issues in the mobility equipment industry taught by certified trainers.

certified dealers. (At your dealership or local

Onsite October 2011 (Regional)

CAMS-HP Lunch & Learn

rehab center.)

**CAMS-HP Regional** 

Onsite For .1 CEU credit course designed for CDRS, View Schedule at OT and other professionals on key issues in www.nmeda-cam the mobility equipment industry taught by shp.org

> To find out how you can participate in these programs contact pete@nmeda.org.

### YOUR TRAINING SOURCE

## NMEDA Manufacturer **Service School** in Seattle. WA **Tied for Highest** Score!

#### **Bv Pete Lucas**

For the second time in less than a vear, a NMEDA Manufacturer Service School (MSS) received a 4.5 of 5 stars on attendee satisfaction. This score ties last year's record high!

Kersey Mobility hosted this highly successful service school on July 12-14th at their convenient suburban Seattle facilities. 20 attendees representing 10 dealerships from all across the US & Canada attended the training.

7 manufacturers were on hand to train attendees in best installation and service practices for their products.

#### Presenting manufacturers included:

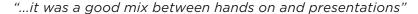
MPS, Auto Chair, Freedom Mobility, Crescent Industries, Adapt Solutions, MPD, and Q'Straint.

#### Here are some of the comments from the twenty attendees:

experience, and good tech content..."

**I** Informative,

light-hearted



"... informative, light-hearted experience, and good tech content"

"...variety of manufacturers in relatively short time"

"...great training, looking forward to many more"



In the picture: A manufacturer displays their product for hands-on training at the July 2011 NMEDA Service School in Seattle, Washington,

## Last 2011 Manufacturer **Service School Coming Soon!**

#### Limited registration.

We are planning to schedule one more regional Manufacturer Service Schools for 2011 at United Access in St. Louis on Oct. 18-20, 2011.

Registration is coming soon for the MSS-St.Louis and details can be found in the training area of the NMEDA website. Space will be limited to 30 trainees, so make sure to take advantage of these valuable hands-on training opportunities before they sell out.

For more details contact Pete Lucas at 800-833-0427 pete@nmeda.org.





## On the Web...

To view our future service school details and other training opportunities visit the NMEDA website at http://members.nmeda.org/members/training/.

#### **QAP DISCOUNT PROGRAM**

NMEDA Thanks and recognizes these manufacturers for their participation in this voluntary discount program that enhances the benefits of the Quality Assurance Program (QAP).

#### **Adaptive Driving Alliance**

(Requires Membership) 4218 W. Electra Lane Glendale, AZ 85310 623-434-0722 phone www.adamobility.com

**Freedom Mobility** 

N. 2nd Street, Box 129

Green Lane, PA 18054

www.freedomsciences.com

215-234-5000 phone

Q'Straint

5553 Ravenswood Road #104 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312 800-987-9987 phone www.qstraint.com

## Pride Mobility Products Corp.

182 Susquehanna Avenue Exeter, PA 18643 570-655-5574 phone www.pridemobility.com

#### Vantage Mobility International (VMI)

5202 South 28th Place Phoenix, AZ 85040 800-348-8267 phone www.vantagemobility.com

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\*\*\* NMEDA is unable to provide information with regard to the individual company discounts. Dealers who are participating in the NMEDA Quality Assurance Program should contact their sales representatives from the above companies for additional details about their discount program.



# 

Does Our Industry



Mobility dealers and manufacturers must prepare for higher costs of advertising online." By: Bob Lundin, Google Advertising Professional

I recently came across this article and found it amazing what other verticals are willing to pay for website visits. The top three (reference the graph) are willing to pay between \$40 and \$55 per web visit. At first this seemed crazy. However, there are many factors' to consider. A simple tracking funnel might be a key indicator of what you should be spending. Cost per Visit - Cost per Lead - Cost per Sale - Cost of Retention. If you truly have accurate measurements you can then work with the numbers to identify an effective cost per web visit. I believe only a handful of dealers can accurately say what their Cost per Sale is by source. If you want to preserve your future and maintain a Sound ROI then you must know this.

#### What does all this mean?

Mobility dealers and manufacturers must prepare for higher costs of advertising online. Google's PPC model is just one avenue of getting to our potential end users. Media verticals such as Press Releases, Article Submissions, Blogging, Facebook, and YouTube can be very cost effective. It's always important to monitor each of your

advertising sources. This way you're able to manage your advertising budget appropriately.

Please send questions or comments to bob@imedconsulting.com.

## Most Expensive Google Keywords

Google has released a list of the top 20 keywords and grouped them into categories based on user searches.

Using data from an in-house keyword research database and Google's Keyword Tool, the team compiled the top 10,000 most used keywords and organized them into main markets. These represent English language searches over the last three months.

#### Top 5 Keywords

- 1. Insurance
- 2. Loans
- 3. Mortgage
- 4. Attorney
- 5. Credit

The most expensive keywords are all finance related, with the exception of the legal profession. Google is capitalizing on people's need for money and insurance, and making a good business out of serving PPC ads for these niches.



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#### INDUSTRY ADVISOR

## Sliding Door Requirement and Electronic Stability Control - FMVSS 126

By Jacques Bolduc, P. Eng.

The FMVSS 206, Door locks and door retention components, was upgraded in 2007 to include a new sliding door test. The test is an in-vehicle lateral load test (the load is applied from the inside of the vehicle) whereby two loads (2,025 pounds each) are applied to the two vertical edges of the door. Loads are applied adjacent to the door latch/striker positions or, in the absence of a latch/striker system, to the midway point of the door edge (if a door edge has two latch/striker systems, the load is applied midway between the two). The fail criteria are 1) 4 inches (100 mm) of separation of the interior of the door from the exterior of the door frame (at any point) and 2) displacement of the load application device (hydraulic cylinder) of more than 12 inches (300 mm). The upgrade, in effect since September 2009 applies to vehicles with a GVWR of less than 10,000 pounds.

As of September 1, 2011, all vehicles with a GVWR of less than 10,000 pounds must be certified to the FM-VSS 126, electronic stability control. Alterers and final stage manufacturers have an additional year to comply.

Modifiers cannot make inoperative the electronic stability control features of a vehicle. The stability control of a vehicle may be affected by many types of modifications, including changes in the height of a vehicle's center of gravity when the vehicle's body is raised, weight distribution when one side of the vehicle is heavier than the other and when there is a significant change to the vehicle's suspension.

## **Updated Head Rest** (FMVSS 202A) Exemption

By Jacques Bolduc, P. Eng.

Responding to a petition from Bruno, the NHTSA has updated the head rest exemption to take into consideration the new FMVSS 202a as well as the geometry of certain mobility seating systems.

The update expands the exemption from all head restraint requirements in situations where a wheelchair is used in place of a vehicle seat, correctly refers to the redesignated S4.2 in FMVSS No. 202, extends the height and width exemptions from the driver head restraint requirements in FMVSS No. 202 to include FMVSS No. 202a, and extends the height exemption for the driver head restraint to cover the passenger head restraint in FMVSS 202a.

The updated exemption also extends the exemption to cover the dimensional specifications of head rests required by S4.2.1 through S4.2.7 of FMVSS No. 202a (and the corresponding provisions of FMVSS No. 202) in order to accommodate the neck positioning needs of persons with disabilities.

### Canadian Tire Label Requirements Differ from the US

By Jacques Bolduc, P. Eng.

The Canadian tire labels required by the CMVSS 110 differ from the US requirements in regards to the standard itself and the fact that Canada does not have a make-inoperative prohibition that applies to modifications after first retail sale

Understand that vehicles, sold for the first time at the retail level for the purpose of being modified or completed for its final intended use, are considered as new and subject to the CMVSS requirements. Alterers that affect the tire labeling requirements of the CMVSS must affix their National Safety Mark (NSM) in addition to any tire labels that may be required. The NSM must be affixed because a standard is being recertified by an alterer.

If the vehicle is used, no NSM may be affixed and the tire label information may not be changed on a tire label. It would nevertheless be advisable to affix a label so as to advise the vehicle operator that the load carrying capacity and possibly the seating capacity, has been changed.

As an alterer, you affect the load carrying capacity when you weigh it, other than by the addition, substitution or removal of readily attachable components such as mirrors or tire and rim assemblies, or minor finishing operations such as painting.

In Canada, the reduced load carrying capacity label does not exist and is therefore not a method of certifying to the labeling requirements. The original tire label must be removed or covered by the new and accurate tire label.

## New FMVSS 214 Pole Test Exempted From the Make-Inoperative Prohibition

By Jacques Bolduc, P. Eng.

The new pole test requirements of the FMVSS are being phased in but NHTSA has issued a final ruling to Bruno's petition to amend 49 CFR 595 (make-inoperative) to include the new pole test requirements.

Modifiers are now exempt from both the side impact deformable barrier and pole tests for the designated seating position modified, in any cases in which the restraint system and/or seat at that position must be changed to accommodate a person with a disability.

Alterers and final stage manufacturers are not affected by any make-inoperative exemptions and must meet the requirements of S7 (deformable barrier) and, as of September 1, 2016, S9 (pole test).

FMVSS 214 does exclude all vehicles that have a lowered floor or a raised roof from the pole test requirements as well as vehicles that are equipped with a wheelchair lift or have a GVWR greater than 6,000 pounds from the deformable barrier test.

The pole test requires occupant protection when a vehicle, travelling at a speed of 20 mph, impacts a fixed rigid 10 inch diameter pole. The impact point is in line with the occupant's head.

---

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Additional Leonard Media Publication Include:



NMEDA10

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#### CANADA UPDATE

## **Limited Time Canadian Grant Program for Vehicle Modifications**

By Jacques Bolduc

The following call for proposals for the Enabling Accessibility grant program was published July 22, 2011:

The Office for Disability Issues is pleased to announce that a call for proposals for Small Projects enabling accessibility is now open. Please note that the call will be open from July 22, 2011 until September 23, 2011.

Only proposals postmarked on or before the closing date of September 23, 2011 will be considered in this process.

The application form and guidelines can be found on our Web site. All applicants are encouraged to read the guidelines before completing the application.

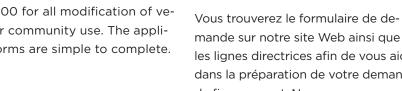
For further information regarding the call, please visit the HRSDC web site at:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability\_issues/eaf/cfp/index.shtml

Should you have any questions about the Small Projects enabling accessibility please contact us by e-mail at: eafcall-appelfa@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca or through our toll free number at: 1-866-268-2502 or TTY: 1800 926-9105.

#### **Enabling Accessibility Fund Program Support Team**

The EAF program offers grants of up to \$50,000 for all modification of vehicles for community use. The application forms are simple to complete.





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#### **Subvention Canadienne** de durée Limité Pour la Modification de Véhicules

Par Jacques Bolduc

L'appel de proposition suivant du Fonds de l'accessibilité à été publié le 22 juillet dernier:

Le Bureau de la condition des personnes handicapées a le plaisir d'annoncer le lancement de l'appel de propositions du programme du fonds pour l'accessibilité. Cet appel de propositions vise les Projets de petite envergure visant à améliorer l'accessibilité. Veuillez prendre note que l'appel de propositions sera ouvert du 22 juillet 2011 au 23 septembre 2011.

Seulement les demandes de financement dont l'affranchissement de la poste indique la date de fermeture de l'appel de propositions du 23 septembre 2011 ou avant seront considérées.

mande sur notre site Web ainsi que les lignes directrices afin de vous aider dans la préparation de votre demande de financement. Nous encourageons les demandeurs de prendre connaissance des lignes directrices avant de soumettre une demande.

Pour de plus amples renseignements concernant cet appel de propositions, nous vous invitons à visiter notre site Web à l'adresse suivante:

http://www.rhdcc.gc.ca/fra/condition\_personnes\_handicapees/fpa/adp/ index.shtml

Si vous avez des questions concernant les Projets de petite envergure du fonds pour l'accessibilité, veuillez nous écrire à l'adresse suivante: eafcall-appelfa@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca ou nous contacter par téléphone à notre numéro sans frais au 1-866-268-2502 ou ATS: 1800 926-9105.

#### Fonds pour l'accessibilité L'équipe de support du programme

Le programme de subvention du Fonds de l'accessibilité offre des subventions allant jusqu'à \$50,000 pour les modifications de véhicules destinés à un usage communautaire. Les formulaires de demandes sont simples à compléter

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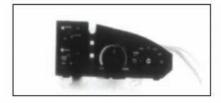
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49



ere we are in the middle of the summer enjoying the heat, our holidays, and trying to keep up with our NMEDA work. I hope everyone is enjoying a healthy and happy time!

Our committees have done much work so far this year, trying to keep abreast of your needs:

- The Transport Canada committee
   is waiting to submit completed
   inspection forms to Transport
   Canada regarding possible
   allowance for pre-owned
   vehicles to move across the
   border for modification. News
   regarding any changes to policies
   and procedures will be offered in
   a specific Short Circuit.
- The Membership committee has contacted members that have not renewed their membership in the last year to see what has caused them not to continue their membership, and it appears as though the primary answer is that their business is on the fringe of what NMEDA stands for and they have decided to focus on other areas of their business.

Another major task is having the NMEDA documentation translat-

## **CANADIAN PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### DAVID HUTCHISON

#### (SPARROW HAWK INDUSTRIES, LTD. - WATERLOO, ONTARIO)

One of the founding owners of Sparrow Hawk Industries, David has been in the vehicle mobility industry for 16 years. He started assisting NMEDA Canada during his first year in the industry on the Finance committee, and has been on many committees surrounding finance, compliance, testing and Canadian Conferences over the years. Concerns or questions may be directed to him at canada@nmeda.org.

ed to French, which has been met with temporary roadblocks.

The QAP committee has been contacting members as their membership comes up for renewal, hoping to assist in the implementation of the Quality Assurance Program. The response from this committee has been great, and the member support of moving to the QAP has been exactly what I expected. Definitely, change causes some concern, but most members are charging forward to get on board with the QAP.

There have been many changes to our industry in the last few years, and there will be many more changes coming for sure. One change that has come about is the substantial offerings of learning opportunities from the NMEDA office. Please try to take advantage of the marketing and other offerings from NMEDA!

The end of 2011 will be upon us in the next 5 months. At the end of every year, there are elections for positions inside of NMEDA. Last year, we changed from having our elections for Board member positions by mail so that we

## Our committees have done much work so far this year, trying to keep abreast of your needs..."

The PR committee is re-grouping so that detailed information as to the changes that are occurring within NMEDA can be sent to you. Communication with ADED members will be one main target in the next month to ensure that everyone is aware of the important changes that are occurring. Also, and equally important, is communication with the membership regarding changes that are coming down the pipeline for the members.

could save time at our February meeting. Please consider running for a Board position. The positions that will be elected this year include President, Treasurer and Professional Member.

As always, I am eager to hear any issues that you may have, and am eager to assist where I can!

---

## **CANADA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011**

#### **David Hutchison, President**

Sparrow Hawk Industries, Ltd. 675 Davenport Road Waterloo, ON N2V 2E2 519-884-4295 phone 519-884-1924 fax davidh@sparrowhawk.ca

#### **Ed Stang, Vice President**

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#### **Melody Chamberlain, Secretary**

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1749 Lyon Street
Prince George, BC V2N 1T3
250-564-2240 phone
250-564-2243 fax
melody.chamberlain@pgsurgmed.com

#### Joe Allen, Treasurer

Kino Mobility, Inc. 3-1141 Sheppard Avenue W. Toronto, ON M3K 2A2 416-635-5873 phone createjoe@gmail.com

#### **Terry Miller, Associate Member**

Mobility Consulting Services, Inc.

1 De Lisieux

Blainville, QC J7C 4Z2

405-508-6625 phone

mobilityconsulting@videotron.ca

#### Erik Switzer, Manufacturer Rep.

Savaria 107 Alfred Kuehne Boulevard Brampton, ON L6T 4K3 800-661-5112 phone eswitzer@wheelchairvans.ca





## **REGIONAL REPORTS**

#### Who Represents You?

These representatives are your voice. If you have any concerns or issues that you need clarification on, call or email your Regional or Associate representative and they will assist you in any way they can. The representatives also write a quarterly article about things that are happening in your region. If you have any information that you would like to share with them, please feel free to contact them.

#### Southern Region

#### **Richard May**

United Access
2165 Hillshire Circle
Memphis, TN 38133
901-888-1010 phone
901-888-1009 fax
richard@unitedaccess.com

#### States Include:

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia

#### Northern Region

#### Mark DiRosa

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Mentor, OH 44060
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440-942-8028 fax
mdirosa@mcmobilitysystems.com

#### States Include:

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#### Midwest Region

#### **Bob Lundin**

IMED Mobility 200 East 1st St. Tea, SD 57064 605-498-1601 phone 605-498-2202 fax bob@imedmobility.com

#### States Include:

Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin.

#### Western Region

#### **Dan Drury**

New Horizon Vans, Inc. 3219 Candelaria, NE Albuquerque, NM 87107 505-884-2492 phone 505-884-8007 fax dan@newhorizonvans.com

#### States Include:

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#### Canada Representative

#### **David Hutchison, Canadian President**

Sparrow Hawk Industries, Ltd. 675 Davenport Rd. Waterloo, ON N2V 2E2 519-884-4295 phone 519-884-1924 fax davidh@sparrowhawk.ca

#### Associate Representative

#### John Anschutz, Associate Rep.

Shepherd Center
2020 Peachtree Rd. NW
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-350-7720 phone
404-350-7356 fax
john anschutz@shepherd.org

#### SOUTHERN REGIONAL REPORT

**By Richard May** 

Since our government has finally raised the debt limit we can breathe a small sigh of relief. However our business is basically flat from last year. I don't know about you but this is the worst year since 2008, which was the beginning of the recession. I am very concerned that we are headed in that direction once again. I hate to be pessimistic but I believe the winds are not favorable for business.

"The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails." ~ John Maxwell

There is a publication called Bits and Pieces that is published by Ragan Motivational Resources. It is a small booklet that comes out every month full of quotes and short stories with good messages. Some of my favorites:

"Sooner or later we are asked to compromise ourselves and the things we care about. We define ourselves by our actions. With each decision, we tell ourselves and the world who we are. Think about what you want out of this life, and recognize that there are many kinds of success." - Bill Watterson

"Don't believe the world owes you a living; the world owes you nothing - it was here first." ~ Robert Jones Burdette

"Never engage in a battle of wits with an unarmed person."

- ~ Anonymous (I like to say "Don't argue with an idiot".)
- "The guy who takes a chance, who walks the line between the known and unknown, who is unafraid of failure, will succeed."
- ~ Gordon Parks

Don't let trouble fester. "One's objective should be to get it right, get it quick, get it out, and get it over. You see, your problem won't improve with age." ~ Warren Buffett

I am told that in the Chinese language the symbol for trouble and crisis is the same symbol used for opportunity. Appropriate, don't you think?

Waiting, procrastinating, delaying action on a problem or negative situation is almost always an error. When you get the first hint of something not right in your company that is when you should investigate and take corrective action. Most improvements at United Access have come as direct results of problems that have appeared usually at the worst times. Most business problems have marketing related solutions. Sales solve most problems. Success in business is closely related to how much time, energy and money its leaders can direct to marketing versus how much is consumed by internal problems. We must not let other aspects of running a business get in the way of the sales and marketing process. In a recent mystery shopper program 86% of car dealers responded to an email inquiry, less than 12% followed up 3 or more times.

I hope that this article has left you with something to think about and/or has inspired an idea to implement in your life or business. Work hard. Have fun.

#### NORTHERN REGIONAL REPORT

**By Mark DiRosa** 

As many of you may recall I wrote an article back in 2009 about the current state of the used vehicle market place. I've spoken to many of you recently about this dilemma and it appears that availability hasn't changed. What has changed is the way many dealers have adapted to this never ending problem. Many of you have told me that they are buying anything used they can find unmodified and sending these vehicles out for conversion to the manufacturers. But since the manufacturers are only taking current body style vans for conversion we are all looking to find older vehicles for our clients. We all know that anything in the 15k to 25k price range is gold. Many of you are searching the internet daily for used modified vehicles to purchase. And so are many of your clients. This need has created yet another industry issue that we all need to make our clients aware of.

I'll call this "The Salvage/Rebuilt Mobility Vehicle Market Place" These Salvage/Rebuilt vehicles are showing up all over the internet and are being sold all over country. They are being purchased by unsuspecting clients unaware that the manufacturer warranties are null and void if the vehicle has been declared a total loss by the insurance company. Some aren't even aware of the difference between Salvage and Rebuilt. I'm sure many of you have seen the vehicles in your shops. I know for a fact we have. Many of these sellers have told the potential buyers that the manufacturer warranties are still in effect since and as one told me "It was only in a minor accident" all the while I personally knew that the 2007 Dodge Grand Caravan was totaled in an accident in Kentucky only to be sold by the insurance company to a rebuilder in Florida. The rebuilder in Florida then had the vehicle re-titled as a rebuilt vehicle. Perfectly legal in Florida and many other states as well. I for one believe it is unethical and it is our duty to inform our clients about these types of vehicles.

What can you do about this injustice? If your state allows these vehicles to be rebuilt after being declared a total loss or salvaged title you need to write your congressman and ask them to help protect the consumers. If you or your staff finds one of these vehicles for sale on the internet report it to the manufacturers. They will document it and void any remaining warranty. No warranty will decrease the value of the vehicle, making it less attractive to rebuilders to repair these vehicles. Make any potential buyer you or your staff speaks to aware that these vehicles are out there and if they are thinking about purchasing one off the internet offer to run a Carfax report for them. Offer to contact the conversion manufacturer to confirm if there is a warranty still on the vehicle. Showing this concern for your client's needs goes a long way in building credibility. Remember this: It's much easier to show care and concern for your clients when they're sitting across from your desk than it is for the internet seller on the computer monitor. The 1-on-1 relationship you have is your best selling tool.

#### MIDWEST REGIONAL REPORT

By Bob Lundin

It's hard to believe that summer is coming to an end. NMEDA has been working hard to make a difference.

NMEDA QAP - There is no secret in that NMEDA will lose members who choose not to become part of the Quality Assurance Program (QAP). In fact, some memberships have already been canceled. It's hard to imagine being a viable Mobility Equipment Dealer today without being QAP. QAP is about the industry, not one individual dealer. We need standards, credibility, safety, and service for our customers. QAP was a big talking point in the recent meeting with the VA Deputy Director.

Veterans Affairs Initiative - The committee of Dave Hubbard, Sam Cook and Bill Siebert continue to meet on a regular basis with the Veteran's Affairs Administration. You should have received a Short Circuit email recently about NMEDA going to Washington. If you read the email you should have been impressed. The contacts these guys are making will definitely have an impact down the road. Meeting with Deputy Directors, Congressmen and National Directors is very influential. As the VA relationship matures we will be able to streamline NMEDA's value proposition.

Cooperative Awareness Program - The IPR committee continues to work hard for you. In the most recent awareness study, NMEDA's overall awareness was unchanged. This did not sit lightly with the committee (which I am on, as well). We formed a subcommittee to evaluate and make recommendations for change. Many of the recommendations that came back were focused more on internet-related advertising and less print advertising. There will be a more formal report on this later this month (August).

If you have questions or comments please email me at bob@imedmobility.com.

#### WESTERN REGIONAL REPORT

**By Dan Drury** 

Most NMEDA members I have spoken to are experiencing a year of steady, if not robust, growth. It's not surprising that the more successful companies share some common traits: 1) Professional Staff, 2) Inviting and comfortable facilities, 3) Strong inventory and 4) Value vs. Price separates them from their competition.

All adaptive mobility companies should be moving toward this business model. The assistance offered by manufacturers and NMEDA make it more attainable than it seemed in the past. There has never been more sales, marketing and technical assistance available. Those taking full advantage of these items, while working on improving their own internal processes, are being rewarded. The rewards include more sales, loyal customers, better employees and better relationships. But you can't get there by just sending your techs and sales people to training every two years.

We spend thousands of dollars a year training our staff. Expenses include travel, hotel, meals, lost production. How often do our people return to work and continue doing their job the same way they did before leaving? Do they offer new ways to improve processes or procedures within the company when they return? If we don't have an immediate way for those employees to share their new experiences with the rest of the staff it could be money wasted.

We as owners are also accountable for improvement. Reading more and talking to other owners about challenges and solutions are great first steps. Over my 30 years of working in this industry (wow, I feel really old at this moment) I've known owners who became content with the operation of their businesses. Most are out of business now or just going to a job every day because they don't know anything different. We have to always be striving to improve our companies for our customers, employees and communities. This commitment to improvement takes a lot of work but the most successful owners will commit.

NMEDA and our manufacturers are also committed to the overall growth and strength of dealers. It seems that every three months a new or improved program or opportunity is being rolled out. As this happens, please give your feedback to the appropriate people. The best ideas come from the NMEDA members, not the Board of Directors. The addition of Bill Fredo as Quality Control Director to oversee QAP, Compliance and Guidelines is a great step forward for NMEDA. He has hit the ground running and brings a much needed skill set to our quality and safety programs.

For updates on all of the committees and what they are working on go to <a href="https://www.nmeda.com">www.nmeda.com</a> and review the consent agendas. As always, contact me with any concerns or great ideas.

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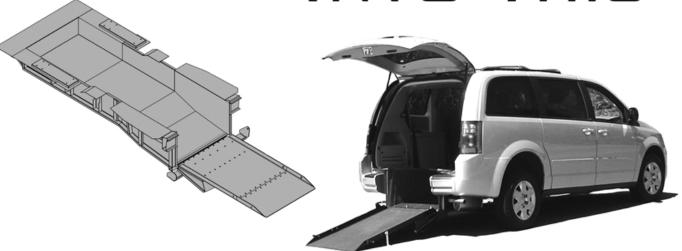
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#### KEMPF

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## Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. 19001 S. Western Ave. H205

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#### Transfer Flow, Inc.

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Freedom Mobility, LLC 2075- 47th St. Sarasota, FL 34234 800-833-0478 x365

#### Merits Health Products

730 NE 19th Place Cape Coral, FL 33909 239-772-0579

#### Olesen Logistical Management Group, Inc.

4625 E. Bay Drive #222 Clearwater, FL 33764 727-535-0905

#### Q'Straint

5553 Ravenswood Rd., #110 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312 954-986-6665

#### **GEORGIA**

Adaptive Mobility Systems, Inc. 5555 Oakbrook Pkwy Suite 555 Norcross, GA 30093 770-662-5242

#### **ILLINOIS**

B & D Independence 1024 Empire Street Mt.Carmel, IL 62863 618-262-7117

#### Freedman Seating

4545 W. Augusta Blvd. Chicago, IL 60651 773-524-2440

#### Wells-Engberg Co., Inc.

129 S. Phelps Ave., #920 Rockford, IL 61108 800-642-3628

#### **INDIANA**

#### Ace Mobility LLC

2444 Production Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46241 317-241-2444

#### **AOI Electrical**

7988 Centerpoint Drive, Ste 400 Indianapolis, IN 46256 800-480-6680

#### **Braun Corporation**

P.O. Box 310 Winamac, IN 46996 800-843-5438

#### Mobility Products & Design - MPD

PO Box 306 Winamac, IN 46996 574-946-4250

## Prime-Time Specialty Vehicles, Inc. 56616 Elk Park Dr.

Elkhart, IN 46516 574-293-9191

#### **KANSAS**

#### El Dorado National

1655 Wall St. Salina, KS 67402 785-827-1033

#### **LOUISIANA**

#### E.Z. Lock

2001 Wooddale Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806 225-214-4620

#### RADOCK Systems, Inc.

6004 Hollyfield Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70809 225-366-9897

#### **MAINE**

#### **Crescent Industries**

191 Washington St. Auburn, ME 04210 207-777-3500

#### Electronic Mobility Controls, LLC

26 Gabriel Dr. Augusta, ME 04330 207-512-8009

#### **MICHIGAN**

#### Auto Ability

8105 Big Lake Road Clarkston, MI 48347 248-620-4200

#### Chrysler Special Vehicle Sales

800 Chrysler Dr. Southfield, MI 48326 800-255-9877

#### **General Motors Corporation**

100 Renaissance Ctr. MC482-A20-B98 Detroit, MI 48265 313-667-8682

#### Mobility Transportation Services, Inc.

42000 Koppernick, #A3 Canton, MI 48187 734-453-6452

#### Veigel North America

24291 Sorrentino Ct. Clinton Tup, MI 48035 586-790-2970

#### View Point Mobility

1815 Palmer Street Kalamazoo, MI 49001 877-368-6022

#### **MISSOURI**

#### Mobility Motor Sport by Electric Car Company

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#### OHIO

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2509 Krisko Cir. SW Canton, oH 44706 330-452-2222

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### **Freedom Sciences**

North 2nd Street Green Lane, PA 18054 215-234-5000

#### Pride Mobility Products Corp.

182 Susquehanna Avenue Exeter, PA 18643 570-655-5574

#### **WISCONSIN**

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#### CANADA

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#### Van Extras

565 Marjorie Street Winnipeg, MB B3H 0S8 Canada 204-783-8267

#### **NEW BRUNSWICK**

#### Howell Ventures Ltd.

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#### **ONTARIO**

#### Conna Corp.

330 Sheldon Drive Cambridge, ON N1T 1A9 Canada 800-591-7185

#### Savaria Vehicle Group

107 Alfred Kuehne Blvd Brampton, ON L6T 4K3 Canada 800-561-9600

#### **QUEBEC**

#### Adapt-Solutions

145 Damase-Breton St-Lambert, QC GOS 2WO Canada 866-641-0419

#### **SASKATCHEWAN**

#### Automobility Manufacturing Corp.

1444 Lorne Street Regina, SK S4R 2K4 Canada 306-791-9840

#### INTERNATIONAL

#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

#### Alfred Bekker Ltd.

Kellythorpe, Driffield East Yorkshire, England YO25 9DJ United Kingdom 44(0) 1377-241700

#### **ALABAMA**

LynLo Enterprises, Inc. Lou Klein 8933 Green Chase Drive Montgomery, AL 36117 941-726-2220

## State of Alabama Dept. of Rehab Services

Craig Rogers 3830 Ridgeway Drive Birmingham, AL 35259 205-414-8430

#### **ARIZONA**

Accessible Vans of America Jerod Redick 3306 E. Washington St. Ste. 201

3306 E. Washington St. Ste. 201 Phoenix, AZ 85034 417-581-0861

ADA - Adaptive Driving Alliance

Victoria Krull 4218 W. Electra Lane Glendale, AZ 85310 623-434-0722

Carol Blanc, OTR/L CDRS

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**Driving to Independence LLC** 

Jennifer Nordine 1414 W. Broadway #218 Tempe, AZ 85282 480-449-3331

Garry's Mobility Service

Garry Green 6 Glen Oaks Prescott, AZ 86305 928-776-8633

Rehabilitation Services Adm.

Sue Lehew 1789 W. Jefferson (930A) Phoenix, AZ 85007 602-542-3332

**Tempe Mobility** 

Bill Campbell 7975 S. Autoplex Loop Tempe, AZ 85284 800-525-7142

#### **CALIFORNIA**

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**Adaptive Driving Program** 

Paul Cooper P.O. Box 641 Montebello, CA 90640 323-855-1502

American Mobility Center, Inc.

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Mobility Electronics, Inc.

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Sharp Memorial Hospital - Rehab

Penny M. Anders 1641 Borana St. San Diego, CA 92111 858-565-2437

#### **COLORADO**

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Craig Hospital

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Mobility and More dba Kyto Inc.

Tom Black 1447 N. Denver Ave. Loveland, CO 80538 970-461-8400

Specialty Vehicle Consulting

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#### CONNECTICUT

CT Bureau of Rehab Services

Glendine Henry 25 Sigourney St., 11th Floor Hartford 06106 860-424-4859

Easter Seals Mobility Center

Harry Gough 158 State St. Meriden, CT 06450 203-237-7835

Easter Seals Mobility Center

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#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

National Rehab Hospital - OT Dept.

Glenn Digman 102 Irving St. NW Washington, DC 20010 202-877-1531

#### **FLORIDA**

Advanced Driver Rehabilitation Inc.

Judi Hamelburg 1031 Ives Dairy Rd. Suite 228 N. Miami Beach, FL 33179 305-770-0747

Advantage Vans (dba CJS Automotive Inc)

Joseph Bobalik 7276 Narcoossee Road Orlando, FL 32822 407-281-8369

Disabled Dealer Enterprise, Inc.

Stella Smith 426 Island Cay Way Apollo Beach, FL 33572 888-521-8778

**Driver Rehabilitation Services** 

Dave Krieger 9315 Hunters Park Way Tampa, FL 33647 800-738-9967

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Rehabilitation Engineering & Technology Program

Stephen Sundarrao 4202 E. Fowler Avenue ENB 118 Tampa, FL 33620 813-974-5346

Total Mobility and Modifications Services Inc.

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#### **GEORGIA**

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Bill Barnes 221 South Ashley Street Valdosta, GA 31601 229-333-7560

Georgia Dept. of Labor -Voc Rehab Services

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**Shepherd Center** 

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**Assistive Driving Services** 

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Bennett Boehning & Clary LLP

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Easter Seals Crossroads

Susan Hardesty-Pritchard 4740 Kingsway Drive Indianapolis, IN 46205 317-721-8636

**Easter Seals Crossroads** 

Andrea Vrobel, COTA, MSW, DRS 4740 Kingsway Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46205 317-466-1000 ext. 2507

Indiana Vac-Form. Inc.

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Nancy Wylie 8245 Hartford Pike Aurora, IN 47001 812-926-4484

Memorial Hosp Outpatient Therapy

Carin Mitchell 111 W. Jefferson Street South Bend, IN 46601 574-647-2600

Memorial Hospital of Southbend

Susan Henderson, CDRS, COTA 111W. Jefferson, Suite 100 South Bend, IN 46601 574-647-2600

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Mary Alice Grugel 630 Kathleen Drive Schererville, IN 46375 219-718-2366 Rehabilitation Hospital of IN

Laura Trexler 9531 Valparaiso Court Indianapolis, IN 46268 317-879-8940

Senior Driving & Mobility Svcs.

Laura Noblitt 4582 NW Plaza W Dr. Ste. 12 Zionville, IN 46077 317-873-1945

Therapeutic Mobility Services

Eva Richardville P.O. Box 8978 Ft. Wayne, IN 46898 260-417-8399

TX Team

April Holok, COTA 8429 Andys Lane Nineveh, IN 46164 317-933-9957

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Frazier Rehab Institute

Suzanne Farnan-Maddux 3430 Newburg Road Suite 111A Louisville, KY 40218 502-451-6886

Heath and Associates

Rick Heath 3316 Springcrest Dr. Louisville, KY 40241 502-425-2385

Media Venue, Inc.

Weaks McKinney-Smith 10531 Timberwood Cr. Ste. E Louisville, KY 40223 502-429-6650 x23

On the Road, Again

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University of KY Medical Center

Stacey Stevens 240 Hillsboro Avenue Lexington, KY 40511 859-255-2555

#### LOUISIANA

Center for Rehabilitation Engineering (CREST)

janice Girouard 711 South Vienna Street Ruston, LA 71270-5845 318-257-4562

Dynamic Care HME (SJC Svcs.)

Steven Courville 4551 Johnson Street Lafayette, LA 70503 337-984-0123

Louisiana Tech

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Louisiana Tech University

Marvin King 711 South Vienna Ruston, LA 71270 318-257-4562

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MA Rehab Commission

Eugene Blumkin 27 Wormwood St. Suite 600 Boston 2210 617-204-3721

#### **MICHIGAN**

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AM Wins of Michigan, Inc

David Leark

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Fortress Partners

Dave Young 5500 Northland Drive Suite K Grand Rapids, MI 49525 616-447-2293

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Mark Berk

28911 Seven Mile Rd. Livonia, MI 48152 734-422-3000

Mary Free Bed Hospital

Greg Brunette 235 Wealthy SE Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-456-4857 The Space Between

Kerry Jones 26875 Church St. Edwardsburg, MI 49112 269-663-0226

University of Michigan Transportation Research Inst.

Larry Schneider 2901 Baxter Road Ann Arbor, MI 48109 734-936-1103

#### **MINNESOTA**

Automobility Connection

Sherri Johnson 559 Hwy 10 South St. Cloud, MN 56304 763-412-2591

#### **MISSISSIPPI**

T.K. Martin Center for Technology and Disability

Dan Allison, MS OTR/L 326 Hardy Rd. Box 9736 Mississippi State, MS 39762 662-325-0886

#### **NORTH CAROLINA**

**Driver Rehabilitation Services** 

Cyndee Crompton 605 Cabaret Rd. McLeansville, NC 27301 336-697-7841

Mike Edwards

3533 Windson Dr. Charlotte, NC 28209 704-342-6003

NC Division Voc Rehab Scc

Philip Protz 2801 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-2801 919-855-3567

**Specialty Transportation Systems** 

Dexter Warren 2720 North Main Street Newton, NC 28658 828-464-9738

**Triad Mobility Consultants** 

Steve Reagan 1202 H East Mountain St. Kernersville, NC 27284 336-992-6122

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Affordable Mobility -Auto Eclectric

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Lindsay Agor 205 Maryview Dr. Webster, NY 14580 585-330-1526

**Dutchess School of Driving** 

Maria Dominijann 653 Rt 82 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 845-226-6700

Gary R. Hanssen

224 Doris Ave. Vestal, NY 13850 607-748-8747

Geneva General Hospital

John Lorenzetti, OTR/L 196 North Street Geneva, NY 14456 315-787-5444

**Paradigm Solutions** 

Brian McLane 29 Rockefeller Blvd. Rensselaer, NY 12144 518-426-8850

Rehab Technology Assoc., Inc.

Gail Babirad PO Box 540 Kinderhook, NY 12106 800-987-2753

Rehab Technology Assoc., Inc.

Jurgen Babirad PO Box 540 Kinderhook, NY 12106 800-987-2753

Rochester Rehab Center, Inc.

Frank Cogliandro 1000 Elmwood Ave. Rochester, NY 14620 716-271-2520

**Rochester Rehab Center** 

Pam Gabryel 1000 Elmwood Avenue Rochester, NY 14620 585-271-2520

See and Be Safe c/o Marketing Action Xecutives

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Wendy S. Cohen

4 Bucklebury Hill Fairport, NY 14450 585-425-2419

#### OHIO

Absolute Auto Solutions, LLC

Susan Brough 2037 Needmore Rd. Suite 200 Dayton, OH 45414 937-723-8767

**Burhill Financial Services** 

Amy Brooks 137 N. Main Street Suite 410 Dayton, OH 45402 937-224-3033

Northwestern Ohio Driver Training School

Paula Sanford 101 S. Defiance St. Box 26 Stryker, OH 43557 419-682-4741

Ohio Rehab Svcs Commission

Linda McQuistion Rehab Tech Support Unit 816 - 30th St. NW Canton, OH 44709 330-438-0500

Sea, Ltd.

Douglas Morr 7349 Worthington - Galena Rd. Columbus, OH 43085 614-888-4160

**Thor Industries** 

David Mihalick 419 W. Pike St. Jackson Center, OH 45334 937-596-6111 ext. 7363

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

Lori Benner MC H-125, P.O. Box 850 Hershey, PA 17033 717-531-7444

Moss Rehab Driving Program

Dan Basore 201 Old York Road, Suite 203 Jenkintown, PA 19046 215-886-7706

Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

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Serge Minassian

1275 Eagle Rd. New Hope, PA 18938 215-598-3944

**Transportation Solutions** 

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#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

#### **CU-ICAR**

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#### Karen Monaco

314 W. Spring Grove Avenue North Augusta, SC 29841 706-833-7940

South Carolina Voc Rehab Technology Program

Tom Jackman 1410-C Boston Ave. W. Columbia, SC 29170 803-896-6080

WJBD V.A. Medical Center

Alan B. Simmerson CDRS 6439 Garners Ferry Rd. Columbia, SC 29209 803-776-4000 ext. 7052

#### **TENNESSEE**

Dept of Veterans Affairs

Rhonda Shipman 1700 Jimmy Malone Road Liberty, TN 37095 682-518-9329

#### **TEXAS**

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services

Richard Hopkins 4900 N lamar Blvd., Ste 1640 Austin, TX 78751 512-424-4111

**Driving Solutions for Disabilities** 

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**Mobility Store & More** 

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Strowmatt Rehabilitation Svcs

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TX Transportation Institute A&M Univ.

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Wheelchair Getaways, Inc.

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#### WISCONSIN

**Adaptive Driving Specialists** 

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Stout Vocational Rehab Institute

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The Master's Driving School

Tim Schermetzler W 7366 Flambeau Point Road Ladysmith, WI 54848 715-532-0327

#### **CANADA**

#### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

#### Larry Bowen Driver Rehab

Larry Bowen 1029 Spruce Avenue Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 4X5 Canada

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#### Vancouver Coastal Health

Dean Robertson 4255 Laurel Street Vancouver, BC V5Z 2G9 Canada 604-734-1313

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## Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation

Carol Morrison 800 Priestman St. Fredericton, BC E3B 0C7 Canada 506-452-5876

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#### F. Lortie

68 Bloomfield London, ON N6G 1P3 Canada 519-495-9541

#### Grande National Leasing Inc.

Peter Grande 14 Connie Cres. Unit #6 Concord, ON L4K 2W8 Canada 905-738-3800

#### Medichair Ltd.

Harry Hignett 72 Six Point Road Etobicoke, ON M8Z 2V8 Canada |416-233-3595

## Parkwood Hospital c/o Driving Assessment & Rehab

Monique MacDonald 801 Commissioners Road London, ON N6C 5J1 Canada |416-233-3595

## Transport Canada - Road Safety & Motor Vehicle Registration

Harry Baergen 330 Sparks St. Ottawa K1A ON5 Canada 613-998-2320

#### **QUEBEC**

#### Centre De readaptation Estrie

Marie-Eve Langlais 300 rue King Est. Bureau 200 Sherbrooke, QC J1G 1B1 Canada 819-346-8411 ext. 43158

#### Constance Lethbridge Rehabilitation Center

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West
Montreal, QC H4B 1T3
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#### Constance-Lethbridge Rehabilitation Centre

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#### Ministere des transports du Quebec

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## Programme Adaptation Vehicule (SAAQ)

Pierre Beaulieu 333 boul Jean-Lesage E-M-27 Quebec City, QC G1K 8J6 Canada 418-528-3310

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#### WAV-ES

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#### INTERNATIONAL

#### **ITALY**

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#### **AUSTRALIA**

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☐ Center Spread	color \$3638	☐ 1/4 Page	b&w \$525   c	color \$664		
☐ Inside Cover	color \$3234	☐ 1/8 Page b&w \$284   color \$360				
☐ Full Page b&w	☐ Full Page b&w \$1779   color \$2830 ☐ Business Card   Classfied b&w \$97					
Advertisement is: ☐ New or Not Changing ☐ Changing Periodically How often? ☐ each issue ☐ will notify						
BILLING INSTRUCTIONS						
ANNUAL RATE: (See Advertising R	Pates) \$	Bill	ed Annually	Billed Quarterly		
Authorized by: Advertiser	Ad Agency					
Print Name		Title				
Signature		Date	9			

#### **RETURN TO:**

Circuit Breaker c/o NMEDA (The National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association) 3327 West Bearss Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33618

PHONE: 800.833.0427 • FAX: 813.962.8970 • E-MAIL: info@nmeda.org • URL: www.nmeda.com

## DATES TO REMEMBER \*\*\*

This calendar of upcoming events is provided as a service to NMEDA members. The *Circuit Breaker* cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information provided. Please verify dates and locations with the organizations listed.

#### **World Congress & Expo on Disabilities**

September 23 - 24, 2011 (Atlantic City, New Jersey) Atlantic City Convention Center Visit www.wcdexpo.com for more information.

#### **Closing the Gap - 29th Annual Conference**

October 12 - 14, 2011 (Bloomington, Minnesota) Sheraton Bloomington Hotel Visit www.closingthegap.com for more information.

#### 2011 SEMA Show

November 1 - 4, 2011 (Las Vegas, Nevada) Las Vegas Convention Center Visit www.semashow.com for more information.

#### 2011 ATIA Conference - Chicago

November 3 - 5, 2011 (Schaumburg, Illinois) Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center Visit www.atia.org for more information.

#### **21st Annual NMEDA Conference**

February 22 - 24, 2012 (Phoenix, Arizona) Hyatt Regency and Phoenix Convention Center Visit www.nmeda.org for more information.

#### **2012 SAE World Congress**

April 24 - 26, 2012 (Detroit, Michigan) Cobo Center Visit www.sae.org/congress/ for more information.

#### **AOTA's 92nd Annual Conference & Expo**

April 26 - 29, 2012 (Indianapolis, Indiana) Venue: TBA

Visit www.aota.org for the latest information.



To have your information included in *Dates to Remember*, mail or fax it at least 12 weeks before the event to <a href="mailto:info@nmeda.org">info@nmeda.org</a> or fax (813) 962-8970.



#### **Free Advertising Materials**

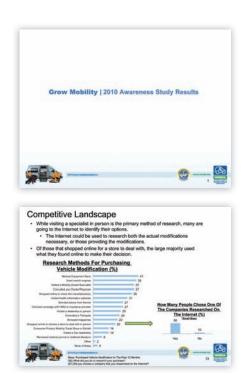
NMEDA has created a free online library of print ads and radio commercials available for your use. The print ads are in both color and black and white, English and French and available in various sizes to be used for magazines and newspapers. The radio spots are available in :30 to :60 second lengths catered to different audiences.

Each item can be customized with your personalized dealer and address information. Simply download the files for your graphics department to work with or you have the option to preview the files as a PDF. Please note you will need InDesign Creative Suite 4 or higher to work with the print ad files. To see the complete library of available work visit the Cooperative Awareness Program section under Member Login at www.nmeda.org



#### **Free Research**

In the second quarter of 2010, NMEDA commissioned a study to help understand the competitive marketplace for our association, measure awareness of NMEDA and the services provided. This information helps determine where opportunity exists regarding attitudes, influences and lifestyle factors that affect the decision to purchase a vehicle modification. A secondary research study was conducted targeting Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists and caregivers to determine where opportunity exists in key attitudes, decision criteria and influencing. To download the research studies visit the Cooperative Awareness Program section under Member Login at www.nmeda.org



NMEDA members now have access to free advertising and marketing materials that are designed to promote the network of NMEDA dealers, help expand your customer base and increase sales of mobility products. The online library enables dealers and QAP dealers to personalize free advertising to run in their market, creating a customizable solution to your specific advertising needs – just like the invaluable, personalized services you provide your clients.

### **Driving Independence**

#### **Free Services**

If you need help putting your logo, address or dealer info on any of the print ad files, just let us know. We'll be happy to do it for you free if you have a hi-res logo. Radio spots are available in several versions and all have time available at the end of each spot so they can be tagged with your name and location information. Most radio stations will tag your location for free with the purchase of the media. To find out more visit the Cooperative Awareness Program section under Member Login at www.nmeda.org.

Take advantage and utilize the dealer brochure to help explain the benefits of working with a NMEDA dealer.



#### **Free Website Templates**

If you do not have a website, choose from one of the available templates. All you need to do is to provide your logo, company information, images and content and we can help you build it out and customize it for free. To find out more information visit the **Cooperative Awareness Program** section under **Member Login** at www.nmeda.org





All marketing and advertising materials are fully customizable for your business and local markets. Save time and money by taking advantage of these free items now.

NMEDA

NATIONAL MOBILITY
EQUIPMENT DEALERS
ASSOCIATION

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## THE LAST WORD

#### Learn to Dance in the Rain

by Steve Rizzo

A few weeks ago I spent four wonderful days at the Four Seasons Hotel in Kona Hawaii, where I had the pleasure of speaking to a wonderful group of Top Sales Performers and spouses of Ameritus Financial.

My job was to give them the tools they need to embrace the changes and intense growth they were currently experiencing and will inevitably continue to experience in the coming years. I knew the tension was high, but I was prepared.

One morning, two hours before my speech, I was having breakfast at a restaurant with a captivating view of the ocean. As the waitress was pouring my coffee, I asked, "Why is it that no matter where they are, or what they are doing, Hawaiian people always seem to be happy and at peace with themselves? Is there some kind of secret that I should know about? And if there is, can you please tell me?"

She laughed and looked around as if to make sure that no one was listening and in a low voice she replied, "Mr. Rizzo today is your lucky day. For today I will tell you the secret that most Hawaiian people live by". She sat down in the chair next to me, motioned me to get closer and whispered in my ear. "We learn to dance in the rain".

Before I had a chance to respond, she reached into her pocket and pulled out a laminated card and handed it to me and said "This is for you. It really is a secret that should be shared with everyone." "Don't wait for the storms of your life to pass. Learn to dance in the rain".

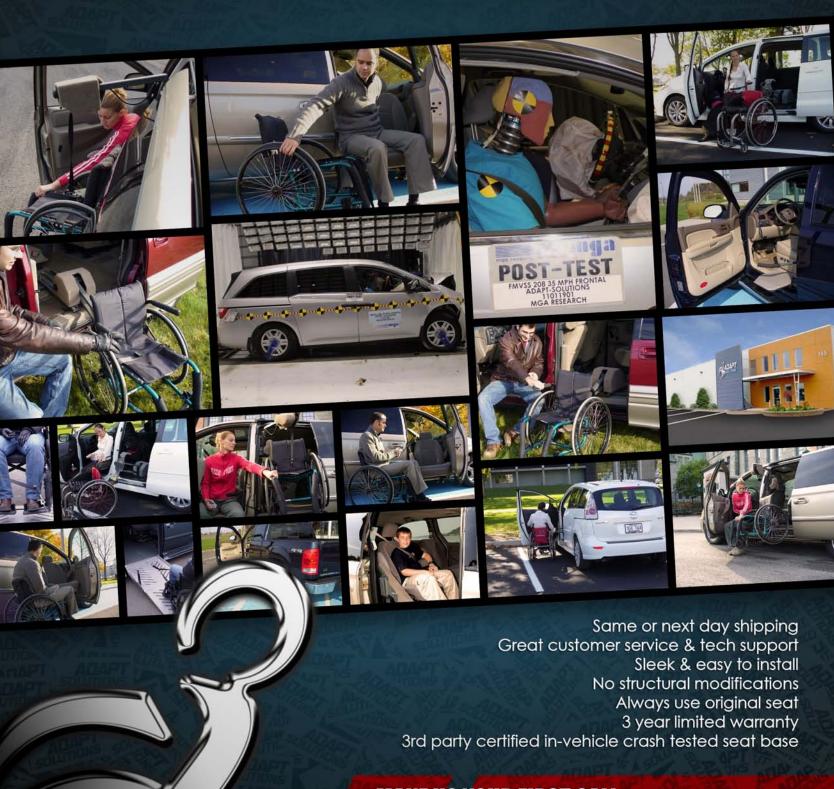
Read that again my friend. That statement is a touchstone for living a successful, happier life, especially when you are experiencing intense change and growth of any kind. That in part is the message I shared with the wonderful people of Ameritus Financial.

"Dancing in the rain" is an attitude that truly happy and successful people live by and few dancers come by it naturally. Can you learn to dance in the rain when the storms of change and misfortune are pouring down on you? I believe the answer is yes. It's a matter of shifting your focus and way of thinking when times are tough that makes the difference.

That is to say, when the storms of life are pouring down on you, you can muster up enough courage to dance and bless the things that life has given you, or, you can drown as you curse your challenges and unfortunate circumstances.

I don't know about you, but I'll take dancing over drowning any day!

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