

For further press information call Caroline Deller or Jessica Alexander
on 01756 795374 or email info@alexanderking.co.uk

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BHTA TELLS YOU HOW TO INCREASE BATTERY LIFE

The British Healthcare Trades Association (BHTA) has launched an advisory leaflet on battery care that will give consumers who use an electrically powered wheelchair or scooter a positive boost.

Called '*Get Wise – get more from your battery*' the leaflet shows how the performance and lifespan of batteries for powered mobility equipment can be maximised. It's been produced with the cooperation of leading mobility vehicle manufacturers and battery manufacturers.

Why did the BHTA develop the leaflet? Says director general Ray Hodgkinson: "Although the battery is one of the most important parts of a mobility vehicle – in effect it's the fuel tank - battery care is usually not first and foremost on consumers' minds, which can lead to poor or inefficient use."

The leaflet is full of simple, useful tips to ensure people get the best out of their battery at all times, wherever they are – even abroad. It answers common questions such as;

- What is the best way to prepare mobility batteries to get the most out of them?
- What lifespan can be expected from batteries?
- What factors affect range on powered mobility equipment and
- Can batteries be transported by air?

Sensible battery care tips are also included, such as never running batteries completely flat, right through to correct disposal.

Just one of the useful BHTA 'Get Wise' range of consumer leaflets, '*Get More from Your Battery*' is available from BHTA, 1 Webbs Court, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1LZ, enclosing an A5 size sae.

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BHTA

There are around 350 BHTA member companies with over 17,000 employees who manufacture and retail assistive technology products and services (like wheelchairs, hoists, walking sticks, stoma products and prosthetics) to help less able people and those with disabilities within the NHS, in the community and in their own homes.

For press information please contact Caroline Deller at Alexander King Associates on 01756 795374, fax: 01756 798789 or email caroline@alexanderking.co.uk