



DRIVE FROM WHEELCHAIR SOLUTIONS

MOTABILITY AND THE WHEELCHAIR SERVICES

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BACKGROUND

- Motability supplies adapted vehicles for disabled people
- The customer can either be the passenger or the driver in the vehicle
- For relatively straight forward adaptations customers can liaise with a Motability accredited car dealer.



COMPLEX SOLUTIONS

- Generally customers who are going to drive from their wheelchairs require a very complex solution
- They require in-depth assessment and provision of specialised controls
- The vehicles that are provided are usually in excess of £60,000 to produce
- They are tailored entirely to the individual customer



A BESPOKE VEHICLE

VEHICLES WILL HAVE:

- Tail lift or ramp
- Specialist controls sited entirely to suit the individual customer
- Specialist tie down solutions
- Hours of conversion time



WHEELCHAIRS

- A solution will generally only be provided for a powered wheelchair
- A chair that is suitable as a mobility solution may not be suitable as a driving solution
- Adaptations to the wheelchair may be required



ADAPTATIONS

- Head rests
- Supports
- Cushions
- Tie downs



HEAD RESTS

- Generally a head rest fitted in the vehicle is preferable
- Head rest to be fitted to the wheelchair by attaching to push handles or back tubes
- Head rest only to be used as a driving solution



SUPPORTS

- Thoracic or lumbar supports added to facilitate a driving position
- Supports only to be used as a driving solution



CUSHIONS

- To facilitate a suitable driving position in the vehicle
- Cushion only to be used as a driving solution



TIE DOWNS

- The biggest challenge!
- Given the advances in technology most tie down systems are now automatic
- Most chairs require an addition of some sort to facilitate the tie down
- Currently this may mean welding or bolting onto the chair chassis

FOOT STEERING USING ELECTRONICALLY OPERATED HORIZONTAL STEERING



SOLUTIONS

- Motability and NWMF develop a process for agreeing non-permanent adaptations for driving solutions
- Possibility of travelling in the wheelchair is included as part of wheelchair assessment
- Standard places for tie downs are agreed

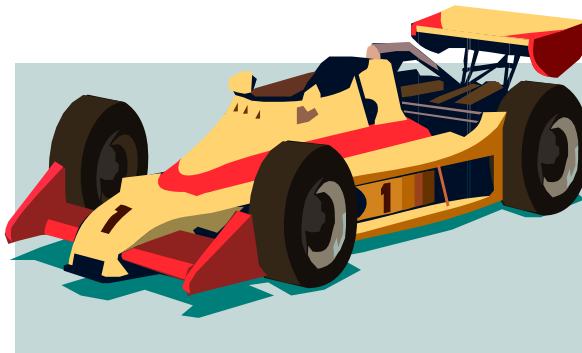


HOW

- An approved protocol for supplying non-permanent adaptations for driving
- An agreed an means of communication between Motability and the Wheelchair Services
- Start a dialogue with manufacturers to work towards standard tie down points

THE FUTURE

- We work together to lead the way to a complete mobility solution for all of our customers.





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