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WHEELCHAIR Marking and Tether Straps:

Training for Installers, Supervisors, and Managers

Problem statement

Many wheelchairs and scooters are difficult to secure. Newer wheelchair designs often do not have the type of frame joints that tie-down systems were originally designed for. Wheelchairs with specially designed attachment points meeting the ANSI/RESNA "WC-19" standard are not yet in wide usage.

Objectives

- Make securement of mobility devices faster, easier, and safer to perform
- Provide as stable and safe a tie-down as possible, reducing potential for accidents
- Make the process more consistent and convenient for transit customers

Course Content (Classroom lecture & PowerPoint, Q & A, hands-on w/ wheelchairs & ideally, vehicles)

- Diversity of Mobility Devices Today
- ADA Transportation Service Requirements & Vehicle Accessibility Requirements
- Wheelchair Securement Issues and Solutions
- Markings and Tether Straps Require Careful Implementation
- "Pre-" Marking and Tether Straps ("Centralized Model") Compared to "On-board" Model
- Wheelchair Standards
- Scooter Issues
- Guidelines for Wheelchair Marking/Tether Straps
- Marking Procedure
- Tether Strap Installation Procedure
- Three Wheeled Scooter Tether Placement
- Tether Straps Can Be Imperfect (or Bad) Solutions
- APPENDIX: Sample Installations

Procedures and Documentation

- Job/Task Description for Installers
- Written Procedures for Wheelchair Evaluation, Installation, and Documentation
- Documentation Form(s) and Record Keeping Infrastructure
- Specifications for Supplies, Tools, and Equipment

Promotion and Public Information

- Consultation with Disability Advocacy and Service Organizations
- Consultation with Health Care Providers ("Prescribers") and Wheelchair Vendors
- Education and Outreach Modes & Materials
- Coordination with Neighboring Transportation Providers, Travel Training Programs, etc.