



By Appointment to  
HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother  
Wheelchair Manufacturer  
Invacare  
Bridgend



## **Urgent Field Safety Notice**

### **Blade Plus Wheelchairs** **Amendment of User Guide**

Date: 05/10/2009

**FSN025**

Ref: 2009/004/024/301/001

#### **Urgent Safety Information:**

In the interests of the safety of our customers we would like to bring your attention to an amendment of the user guides, a copy of which is provided with every Blade Plus wheelchair. Page 29 of the document has been reviewed and amendments have been made where necessary to ensure clear, accurate information is provided for safe usage of the wheelchair.

Current revisions of the user guide for Blade Plus wheelchairs can be down-loaded from Invacare website – [www.invacare.co.uk](http://www.invacare.co.uk). Alternatively, we have attached the reviewed section of manual to page 2 of this FSN. For further advise please contact the Technical Service Department (see below), where you may request a copy of the latest revision of the user guide for your wheelchair.

Please ensure that the information in this notice is made available to all relevant personnel, wheelchair owners /users etc. within your organisation and / or customer base, and that awareness is maintained for an appropriate period.

If you have any questions relating to this bulletin, or should you require any additional information, please contact;

#### **Technical Services Department**

Tel. 01656 647327

Fax. 01656 753299

Invacare confirms that the relevant Competent Authorities have been informed of this Field Safety Corrective Action.

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1. Seek confirmation from the Transporter that the vehicle is suitably designed and equipped to transport a passenger seated in a wheelchair.  
 NB: The wheelchair user safety during transportation largely depends upon the diligence of the person securing the tie downs and passenger restraints.
2. Any part of the wheelchair (accessories etc.) that can be easily detached should be removed and stored in the vehicle luggage hold during transportation.
3. The wheelchair should always be transported in a forward facing direction.
4. If the wheelchair is equipped with a headrest, it should always be used during transportation. Only original parts allowed.
5. Invacare recommend that the wheelchair be secured by 4-Point webbing tie down systems as manufactured by Unwin Safety Systems or Koller Safety Restraint Engineers.
6. When attaching tie downs to the wheelchair it is imperative these are fixed onto the MAINFRAME of the wheelchair and not onto any attachments or accessories ( wheels, handrims, castors, footrests, anti tipping levers etc.)
7. The tie downs should be secured, as close as possible, at an angle of 45 degrees to ensure maximum effectiveness of the restraint in all directions.
8. The occupant should be restrained independently of the wheelchair by a suitably Approved passenger safety belt or harness. Pelvic restraint or lap belts supplied with the wheelchair may be used in addition to but never as a substitute for Approved wheelchair occupant restraints.



applies also for Transit version

