



## **Urgent Field Safety Notice**

### **Website Communication**

#### **Mobility Powerchairs Control System Changes**

Date: 4th January 2011

**Invacare Ref: FSN036**

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

In the interests of the safety of our customers we would like to bring your attention to this information.

#### **WEBSITE & MAILED PRODUCT COMMUNICATION NOTICE**

The integration of a replacement joystick or power module into a wheelchair or the reprogramming of the existing joystick or power module by someone other than Invacare potentially carries risk as the functionality and performance of the wheelchair may not conform with the specification as originally supplied.

Invacare utilises joystick or power modules that are designed and configured for each particular wheelchair model. Just because two joystick or power modules visually look the same does not mean that they are exactly the same and that they can be used on the same model of wheelchair. Any person intending to replace or reprogramme any joystick or power module for an existing user must first:-

1. Obtain from Invacare full details of the original configuration and programming of the wheelchair;
2. Check with Invacare that the proposed replacement equipment will be compatible.

In addition, a user's medical condition and abilities often require that their wheelchair joystick or power module's settings be further adjusted to meet their needs. The assessment of their needs can only be performed by medical or care professionals knowledgeable of the user's unique medical condition and abilities.

Invacare strongly recommends that the person intending to replace or reprogramme any joystick or power module verifies that, once the joystick or power module is fitted, the performance and functionality of the wheelchair is appropriate for the user's abilities and needs.

For assistance please contact your local Invacare office – details can be found in the section of this website.



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Please ensure that the information in this notice is made available to all relevant personnel within your organisation and / or customer base, and / or any organisation / Wheelchair Repair Service. Please also ensure 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 776333

Fax. 01656 776330

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



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