



Practical Session

Tuesday

AAT (GB) Limited

Stream F Session 4

Social Inclusion – We're in this together



From the manufacturing perspective markets are often price/equipment driven the danger being that whilst appropriate to see to provide kit more cheaply/efficiently new or improved solution to provide quality of life/social inclusion benefits can and do come second to the scramble for market share.

We are fortunate that we live in an environment of equipment that is usually viewed as entirely innovative.

I would like to share some of the instances where the views and suggestions of individual OT's resulted in life changing solutions for individual clients and many went on to change whole sectors.

All of our developments came from listening to professionals meeting difficulties in the field and working with them towards real, workable, effectively, sustainable solutions.

We don't always succeed but if professionals stop asking, guiding, advising, pressing us innovation will stop.

How can we make it easier for you to help us help you

Marrying fully adjustable seating systems with multiple carriers including buggies, feeders, car seats and stairclimbers, this simple idea has allowed difficult respite relationships to not only continue but in many cases have radically improved the scope of activities that can be safely (and pleurably) undertaken.

The full social inclusion possibilities of the above extends to adults (up to 25 stones/160kg) where both social/tilting/adjustable seating and stairways have hitherto represented insurmountable barriers. This concept can and has brought hitherto unsuitable housing stock into use simply by overcoming the stairway/seating barrier.

Transport with dignity and comfort now includes air travel where uniquely engineered powered stair climbers are in regular service in almost all UK and many European airports to embark and disembark passengers with reduced mobility. In achieving this task it was necessary for our design team to shrink the chair to fit narrow aisle widths on smaller aircraft. As a complete spin-off the smaller chair can function effectively on small stairways and landings in houses and offices just as well as on aircraft.