

## ***Power Wheelchairs Worldwide: Markets Reach \$2.4 Billion By 2015***

LEXINGTON, Massachusetts (November 11, 2009) – WinterGreen Research announces that it has a new study on Wheelchairs. The 2009 study has 400 pages, 235 tables and figures. Worldwide markets are poised to achieve significant growth as the wheelchairs are used globally. Growth comes as the population ages in every region.

According to Susan Eustis, the lead author of the study, “the purchase of power wheelchairs is dependent on reimbursement. The use of power wheelchairs is based on providing a chair that has appeal to those who does not have the ability to walk one quarter mile. The inability to walk distances is impossible for some people, yet they resist getting a wheel chair. Custom units, light weight units, stable chairs, comfortable chairs are all an issue in general market as baby boomers reach retirement age and have the desire to maintain an active lifestyle.”

Power wheelchairs impact care delivery, permitting the patient to control mobility for the rehabilitation efforts. Lightweight power wheel chairs give patients the ability to control movement even easier. Rehabilitation depends on patients having a sense of control over their lives and achieving some measure of mobility.

Transport power wheelchairs are used for moving people around a store if their mobility is limited. Patients and family gain more control over the care delivery with the availability of power wheelchairs. Care can be delivered in familiar settings

Homecare wheelchair technology is evolving to give people with disabilities more mobility. Markets are poised to create the ability for people to get more exercise and impact the healthcare delivery industry by encouraging mobility of people who were previously bed ridden.

Power wheel chairs provide a primary mode of mobility, frequently fitting onto the rear of a car. Manual wheel chairs are more often used on an interim basis. Many users have both manual and power wheelchairs available.



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The power wheelchair market participants seek to position with chairs that are in growing market segments. Leading vendors offer a wide range of products, services, training, and support. Homecare agencies depend on reimbursement to sell custom units and are frequently able to perform filling out the paperwork for users. . The designs of wheelchairs are making them intuitive to use. Power wheelchairs are evolving electronics and control systems that produce more feature function packages. This represents major market opportunity.

Invacare is among several industry leaders in the market for home medical products. They manufacture and distribute a bundled wheelchair, respiratory, and patient care homecare product offering to home medical equipment providers. Invacare has a very strong distribution network.

Power wheelchair markets in dollars at \$1.4 billion in 2009 are expected to reach \$2.4 billion by 2015. Power wheelchairs are poised to achieve significant growth as batteries become easier to charge from renewable energy, batteries last longer, units weigh less, chairs are more maneuverable, and features support automated process.

WinterGreen Research is an independent research organization funded by the sale of market research studies all over the world and by the implementation of ROI models that are used to calculate the total cost of ownership of equipment, services, and software. The company has 35 distributors worldwide, including Thompson Financial and Global Information GII Info-Shop.

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