



Direct Supply® **SLINGS**

Owner's Manual

Please keep and refer to this Owner's Manual.

Thank you for purchasing a Direct Supply® Sling from Direct Supply Equipment & Furnishings®, distributed by Direct Supply® Manufacturing™, Inc. Please read this entire guide carefully and keep it for future reference. This guide will provide you with instructions, warnings, warranty information and other important information about your Direct Supply Sling. Share this information with your housekeeping, nursing and maintenance staff to help ensure this sling is cared for properly.

1-800-634-7328 DirectSupply.com

Warnings

⚠ WARNING: Important! Read and understand these instructions before assembling or using the sling. Also read and understand the instructions for the lift before using this sling. If you do not understand any part of these warnings, cautions or instructions, contact a healthcare professional for direction in the use of this product. If the sling is not properly applied, personal injury and damage to the sling could result. This sling is intended ONLY for use with a Direct Supply Atlas Lift. DO NOT use this sling with any other lift.

⚠ WARNING: If components are damaged or missing, DO NOT USE and contact Direct Supply Equipment & Furnishings.

⚠ WARNING: This sling may not be appropriate for all individuals. A licensed healthcare practitioner should always verify that this sling is appropriate to use for the individual resident, based on a comprehensive analysis of the resident's unique medical history and current condition.

⚠ WARNING: Carefully inspect the sling before each use for wear and damage to seams, fabric, straps and strap loops. Torn, cut, frayed or broken slings can fail, resulting in serious personal injury to the user. Use only slings that are in good condition. Destroy and discard old, unusable slings.

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT exceed the sling's maximum weight capacity.

⚠ WARNING: Direct Supply Manufacturing assumes no responsibility for any damage or injury caused by improper application or use of this product.

⚠ WARNING: Never exceed the maximum safe working load of either the resident lift or resident sling.

⚠ WARNING: USE CARE, DISCRETION AND COMMON SENSE TO DETERMINE IF A SEVERELY SPASTIC OR HANDICAPPED PERSON CAN BE LIFTED WITH A DIRECT SUPPLY LIFTER.

⚠ WARNING: Maximum safe working load of Direct Supply Full Body Slings is 450 lbs. (205 kg). Never exceed the lowest safe working load rating of either the resident lift or resident sling.

⚠ WARNING: This sling is intended ONLY for use with Direct Supply Atlas Floor Lift - 450 lbs. Capacity and should NOT be used with any other make or model resident lift.

⚠ WARNING: The items and packaging in this shipment contain chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm.

Instructions for Full Body Slings

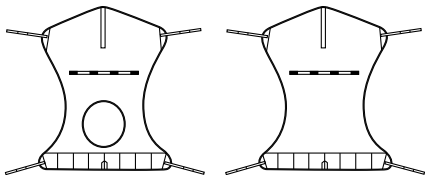
Direct Supply slings are made to support a resident during lift and transfer procedures. The slings are reinforced at all points of attachment, and the sling fabrics are designed to help resist deterioration from exposure to moisture and laundering.

Fabric

The outer side of the sling features a “handle” for assistance in positioning the resident in a wheelchair, commode, etc.

⚠ CAUTION: Always place the sling under the resident with the handle away from the resident. Laundering should be done with dark colors. Refer to the washing instructions on the sling label and in this manual.

Full body slings are constructed with a high back section that provides additional support for the head and neck and a padded under-thigh section for added comfort.



Positioning the Full Body Sling on the Mattress

1. Position the resident in the center of the bed, laying flat on his/her back.
2. Fold the sling in half (lengthwise) and place the sling beside the resident (see figure 1).

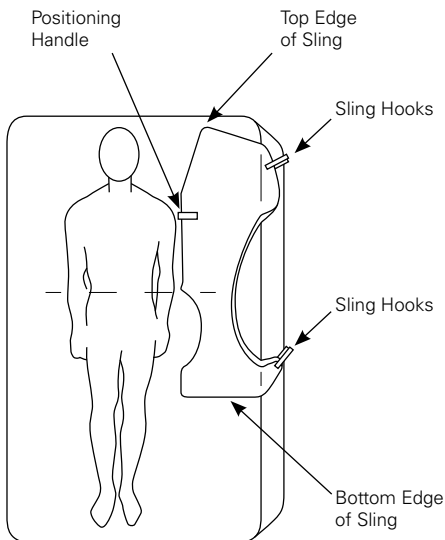


Figure 1

NOTE: The closed end or commode opening of the sling with positioning handle should be facing the resident when folded.

1. The top edge of the sling should be slightly above the resident's head.
2. The bottom edge of the sling should be a few inches above the back of the resident's knees.

NOTE: It is generally recommended that two (2) assistants be used when positioning the resident on a sling. Always follow all your facility's requirements for safe lifting procedures. The bed rails may be raised to minimize resident movement.

3. With one (1) assistant holding the resident, the second assistant pushes the folded sling under the resident without rolling him/her over.

Positioning the Resident on the Sling

NOTE: Use the following method to move the resident and help avoid strain to yourself.

1. If the resident is to roll to his/her left side, then elevate the resident's right knee until the right foot is flat on the bed (see figure 2).

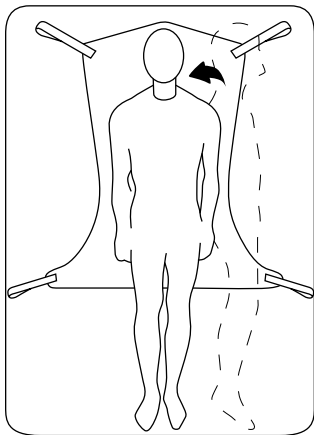


Figure 2

NOTE: It is generally recommended that two (2) assistants be used when positioning the resident onto a sling.

1. With an assistant on each side of the bed and up against the mattress, the assistant on the left-hand side of the bed will position his/her right hand on the elevated knee and his/her left hand under the resident's right shoulder. Slowly push on the knee and assist with a slight lift of the shoulder. The resident will roll onto his/her side.

2. With the resident on his/her side, push the fabrics of the seat and back gently under him/her.

NOTE: The resident's head should be positioned in the headrest just below the top edge for maximum comfort and the lower edge of the seat section positioned a few inches above the back of the resident's knees.

3. Roll the resident onto his/her back (*figure 3*).

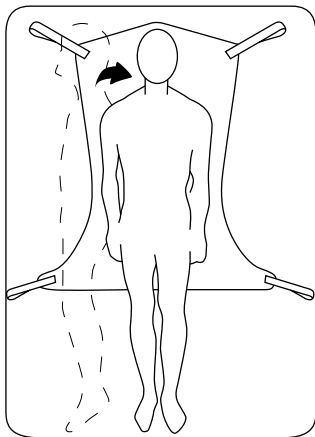


Figure 3

NOTE: Assistants will reverse roles.

1. After the resident has been positioned on his/her back, roll the resident to his/her right side (facing the assistant on the left).
2. With an assistant on each side of the bed and up against the mattress, the assistant on the right side of the bed will elevate the left knee and position his/her right hand under the resident's left shoulder. Slowly push on the knee and assist with a slight lift of the shoulder. The resident will roll onto his/her side.
3. Pull the fabrics of the seat and back across the mattress until they are smooth.
4. Roll the resident onto his/her back and he/she should be approximately centered on the sling.
5. Position the lift for use.

NOTE: The lift must be positioned for use before the slings can be attached.

Attaching the Sling

Full Body Slings

1. Place the straps of the sling over hooks of the swivel bar or cradle and be sure to match the corresponding strap and/or strap colors on each side of the sling for an even lift of the resident.

NOTE: Standard swivel bars have only one hookup per end while cradles have three hookup points per side. The middle hookup point is **ONLY** used for slings that have three sets of straps per side or slings that use chains or adjustable straps.

2. Shorter straps are positioned toward the resident's back for upper trunk and head support and so they can be lifted in a more upright position. Colored straps make it easy to connect both sides of the sling equally. Always ensure there is sufficient head support when lifting a resident.

Divided Leg Slings & Toileting Slings

⚠ WARNING: Maximum safe working load of Direct Supply Divided Leg Slings is 450 lbs. (205 kg). Never exceed the lowest safe working load rating of either the resident lift or resident sling.

⚠ WARNING: This sling is intended **ONLY** for use with Direct Supply Atlas Floor Lift - 450 lbs. Capacity and should **NOT** be used with any other make or model resident lift.

1. Lock both rear wheel locks on the wheelchair before attempting to lift the resident.
2. With the resident sitting in a wheelchair, one assistant in front of the wheelchair will support the resident's weight while the other assistant is in the back of the wheelchair helping lean the resident forward so his/her back is away from the wheelchair.
3. Place the sling behind the resident's back with the strap handle toward the outside, and bring the sling flaps out alongside the resident's legs.

NOTE: Divided leg slings will be positioned so the back of the sling is parallel to the resident's upper arms and between the top of the resident's head and the lower back.

Toileting slings will be positioned with the back of the sling parallel to the resident's upper arms and between the top of the resident's mid-back and lower back.

4. Once the back of the sling is positioned comfortably behind the resident's back, push the bottom of the sling section to the seat.
5. Lean the resident back into the wheelchair with the assistant in the rear supporting the resident's weight.
6. Lift the resident's legs, one at a time, and reach under the resident's leg to pull the front of the sling forward until it is behind the resident's knees. The back of the sling should remain in position.

NOTE: Straps may be positioned around or crossed between or underneath the resident's legs for comfort and stability.

Transferring the Resident

⚠ WARNING: If the resident is in a wheelchair, secure the wheel locks in place to prevent the wheelchair from moving forward or backwards.

⚠ WARNING: When using an adjustable-base lift, the legs **MUST** be in the maximum Opened/Unlocked position before lifting the resident.

⚠ WARNING: Before lifting a resident from a seated or prone position, raise him/her off the chair or bed a few inches and check that all sling attachments are secure and there are no obstructions in the way. If there are any obstructions or if sling is not correctly positioned; lower the resident and correct the problem, then raise the resident and check again.

⚠ WARNING: Adjustments for safety and comfort should be made before moving the resident. Resident's arms should be inside of the straps.

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT roll resident lift over uneven surfaces during resident transfer as this could create an imbalance condition and could cause the resident lift to tip over.

⚠ WARNING: Use the steering handle at ALL times to push or pull the resident lift. Rear casters should be left unlocked during lifting procedures to allow the resident lift to stabilize itself when the resident is initially lifted from a seated or prone position.

⚠ WARNING: Wheelchair wheel locks **MUST** be in a locked position before lowering the resident into the wheelchair for transport.

1. Press the UP button on a battery-powered lift to raise the resident above the bed or chair. The resident should be elevated high enough to clear the surface with their weight fully supported by the lift.

NOTE: On a battery-powered lift, the boom will stay in position until the DOWN button is depressed.

2. When the resident is lifted from the surface, they will be raised to a sitting position. When the resident is clear of the bed or chair surface, swing their feet off the surface.

3. Using the lift's steering handle, move the lift away from the bed.

4. When moving the resident lift away from the bed or chair, turn the resident so that he/she faces the caregiver operating the resident lift.

5. Press the DOWN button on the battery-powered lift to lower the resident so his/her feet will rest on the base of the lift, straddling the mast. Release the down button to stop lowering.

6. Pull the resident lift away from the bed, and then push it from behind with both hands tightly on the steering handle.

7. Once resident has been positioned for transfer to bed or chair, press the DOWN button on the battery-powered lift. **SLOWLY** lower resident while guiding the descent. Push gently on resident's knees or legs as he/she is being lowered to align him/her into a comfortable sitting position. After reaching bed or chair surface, continue to lower boom to release tension on straps.

8. Detach web straps/chains from swivel bar or cradle and move lifter away. Then remove web straps/chains from sling. Resident may remain on sling or sling may be removed in reverse of above.

To Return Resident to Bed

1. Same procedure in reverse. Check to see that S-hooks are properly positioned in sling. Make sure S-hooks are not caught on chair arms as resident is being lifted.
2. Center resident over bed and lower gently.

Instructions for Sit-to-Stand Slings

⚠ WARNING: Standing slings – the bottom edge of the standing sling must be positioned on the resident's lower back with arms outside the sling before lifting the resident.

⚠ WARNING: Gluteal strap – the gluteal strap accessory is to be used only in conjunction with Direct Supply Padded Standing Slings. Do not attempt to use the gluteal strap as an independent lifting device or with slings from other manufacturers.

⚠ WARNING: Transfer slings – the bottom edge of the transfer sling must be positioned at the base of the spine with the resident's arms outside the sling before lifting the resident.

⚠ WARNING: When using sit-to-stand slings and lift, residents must be able to support the majority of their own weight, otherwise injury may occur.

Direct Supply does not recommend locking the rear casters of the sit-to-stand lift when lifting and transferring an individual. This could cause the lift to tip and injure the resident and assistants. Direct Supply recommends the rear casters to be left unlocked during lifting and transferring procedures to allow the sit-to-stand lift to stabilize itself when the resident is initially lifted from and transferred to a chair, bed or any stationary object.

Sling Attachment Guidelines

- a) Place the sit-to-stand sling around the resident and secure the buckle on the sling's safety belt. Be sure to adjust the belt to fit comfortably but snugly around the resident's waist. Check the label on the back of the sling to ensure the sling is correctly oriented before lifting. If using the gluteal strap accessory for additional support, position the gluteal strap (also known as buttock or seat strap) below the resident's waist and around the back of the gluteal muscles (buttocks) and then attach gluteal strap loops to the sit-to-stand lift hooks. The gluteal strap loops may be positioned on top of the sit-to-stand sling loops that are already in place depending on the lift technique and type of sling being used.
- b) Place sit-to-stand lift in front of the resident, and adjust the width of the base.
- c) Place the feet in the middle of the footrest with the lower legs parallel to the lower leg support.

- d) Adjust the height and depth of the lower leg support as needed for comfortable support below the kneecap.
- e) Connect the sling straps to the boom/lift arm's hooks nearest the resident. If using the gluteal strap accessory, position the gluteal strap (also known as buttock or seat strap) below the resident's waist and around the back of the gluteal muscles (buttocks) and then attach gluteal strap loops to the sit-to-stand lift hooks. The gluteal strap loops may be positioned on top of the sit-to-stand sling loops that are already in place depending on the lift technique and type of sling being used.
- f) Raise the sling bar about 4 to 8 inches, and have the resident grab the sling bar for support. Then continue the lifting procedure.
- g) If the resident leans backwards, raising the resident will be made easier, preventing the sling from sliding up. The height to which the lift should reach varies from person to person.
- h) Before the resident is lifted from the underlying surface, but after the straps have been fully extended, ensure the straps are properly connected to the sling bar.
- i) For a more upright position, continue the lifting motion to the uppermost position. The raising motion can be experienced as unpleasant for the person not used to it.
- j) Refer the instructions in your Direct Supply Atlas Sit-to-Stand Lift's manual for detailed instructions on how to correctly transfer using your Direct Supply sit-to-stand slings.

Padded Standing Sling Warnings

⚠ WARNING: Maximum safe working load of Direct Supply Padded Standing Slings is 400 lbs (181 kg). Never exceed the lowest safe working load rating of either the resident lift or resident sling.

⚠ WARNING: This sling is intended ONLY for use with Direct Supply Atlas Sit-to-Stand Lift - 400 lbs. Capacity and should NOT be used with any other make or model resident lift.

⚠ WARNING: Before lifting the resident, ensure the bottom edge of the sling is positioned on the resident's lower back and their arms are positioned outside the sling.

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT use padded standing slings as a transport device. Its intended purpose is to transfer a resident from one seated or resting position to another (such as a bed to a wheelchair).

⚠ WARNING: The belt MUST fit snug on the resident's lower back, but remain comfortable to help prevent the resident from sliding out of the sling during transfer, which could cause injury.

⚠ WARNING: Ensure resident's feet are away from the foot plate before positioning the legs of the padded standing lift around the resident, otherwise injury may occur.

⚠ WARNING: Make all adjustments for safety and comfort before moving the resident. Resident's arms should be positioned comfortably outside of the sling.

⚠ WARNING: Before lifting a resident from a seated or prone position, raise him/her off the chair or bed a little and check that all sling attachments are secure and there are no obstructions in the way. If there are any obstructions or if sling is not correctly positioned, lower the resident and correct the problem, then raise the resident and check again.

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT roll padded standing lift over uneven surfaces during resident transfer as this could create an imbalance condition and could cause the padded standing lift to tip over.

⚠ WARNING: Use the steering handle at ALL times to push or pull the padded standing lift.

⚠ WARNING: Rear casters should be left unlocked during lifting procedures to allow the padded standing lift to stabilize itself when the resident is initially lifted from a seated or prone position.

⚠ WARNING: It is recommended to lock the rear swivel casters ONLY when positioning or removing the padded standing or transfer sling from around the resident.

Transfer Sling Warnings

⚠ WARNING: Maximum safe working load of Direct Supply Transfer Slings is 350 lbs. (158 kg). Never exceed the lowest safe working load rating of either the resident lift or resident sling.

⚠ WARNING: This sling is intended ONLY for use with Direct Supply Atlas Sit-to-Stand Lift - 400 lbs. Capacity and should NOT be used with any other make or model resident lift.

⚠ WARNING: Before lifting the resident, ensure the bottom edge of the sling is at the base of the spine and the resident's arms are positioned outside the sling.

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT use transfer slings as a transport device. Its intended purpose is to transfer a resident from one seated or resting position to another (such as a bed to a wheelchair).

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT raise the resident to a full standing position while using the sling, otherwise injury may occur.

Washing Instructions for All Slings

1. Machine wash in warm or cold water.
 - a. Maximum washing temperature: 105°F.
 - b. Air dry or tumble dry at cool or very low temperature.
 - c. Do NOT tumble dry at high temperature.
2. Use non-enzyme detergent.
3. DO NOT USE BLEACH!
4. DO NOT wash with other colors.

⚠ WARNING: ALWAYS CHECK SLINGS BEFORE USE. BLEACHED, TORN, CUT, FRAYED OR BROKEN SLINGS ARE UNSAFE AND COULD RESULT IN INJURY. DESTROY AND DISCARD. DO NOT ALTER SLINGS.

⚠ WARNING: DO NOT WASH SLINGS WITH BLEACH. BLEACH WILL DAMAGE MATERIAL. SLINGS CAN SUFFER DAMAGE DURING WASHING AND DRYING.

Limited Warranty

We offer you, as the original purchaser of the product, a limited warranty for the structure of the product. Our warranty applies for the limited warranty period stated below. We will repair or replace any product or product part listed below if defective in material or workmanship. Please note that the decision to repair or replace a product or product part will be at our discretion. Our warranty applies only if the product is properly maintained by the original purchaser for normal, indoor use and does not cover normal wear and tear, modification of the product, or damage caused by abuse, improper use, failure to maintain, use which exceeds the published product limitations or the combination of any product with another product. In addition, our warranty does not cover fading, characteristics or natural variations in wood grain or fabric, texture, colorfastness, stains, spills or exposure to chemicals, odors, heat or light. In certain cases, we may provide you repair or adjustment instructions and/or replacement parts, and ask you to perform a repair or adjustment or replace a defective part.

Our warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state. Please note that our limited warranty period begins when we ship the product to you. The limited warranty period and our obligations under the warranty end once you transfer the product to someone else or at the end of the applicable limited warranty period identified below, whichever is earlier. Anticipated Usable Product Life is based on normal use with proper maintenance, cleaning and storage. You should still inspect, monitor and care for the product as described in this guide, as the product may need to be replaced sooner than anticipated in particular situations.

	Warranty Period (Parts)	Anticipated Usable Product Life
Direct Supply Sling	6 months	6 months

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Customer Service

Our promise to you is that you will have a convenient and easy ordering experience, receive a quality sling and enjoy outrageous customer service. If you have any questions about the sling you have purchased or would like to request warranty service, please contact **Direct Supply Equipment & Furnishings** at 1-800-634-7328, 6767 N. Industrial Road, Milwaukee, WI 53223, SalesSupport@DirectSupply.com.



DirectSupply.com

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