

# *Wheelchairs get increased control, safety and comfort using iTip® Safety Handles*

*It is often the carer that ends up with a bad or hunched back from pushing a loved one.*



## Carer care

Carers, porters, and nurses regularly push wheelchairs. When it comes to wheelchairs it's generally about the patient. This is an invention to help these pillars of the community with better efficiency and protection from musculoskeletal disorders. iTip Safety Handles increase comfort, give a firm grip and are especially effective when pushing a wheelchair up or down a ramp. See them in video action, click here [iTip Medical](https://www.safetyhandles.co.uk).

## Ergonomics

iTip Safety Handles use ergonomics to rotate to the position best suited to the carer's height, reducing strain on the wrist and reducing the chances of back injuries. It is not unusual to see carers arching their back while pushing a loved one. iTip Safety Handles reduces the chances of stoop afflictions developing.



## Sterilisation

iTip Safety Handles are interchangeable and quick to sterilise. A set can be issued to a hospital porter for their shift, removed, and cleaned. They will fit on existing wheelchairs\* and will not slip off like traditional handles. *\*For handle braking systems check with iTip.*

## Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS)

The HSE guidance highlights the importance of carrying out risk assessments for each manual handling application by a trained Health and Safety Professional. This should cover wheelchair operation, floor surface variations, sitting and the correct lifting methods for the patient, amongst other points. iTip Safety Handles allows full control of a wheelchair as well as enforcing multiple safety factors. It allows the most complete Method Statement (RAMS) to date, for wheelchairs.

## Background

iTip Safety Handles are a UK invention designed to reduce musculoskeletal symptoms such as backache, when completing manual handling tasks. Although automation has reduced the need for human involvement in many tasks, there are still situations where it is more time and cost effective to use traditional methods. iTip Safety Handles have been independently evaluated by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The scientists summarised the effects as;

*“The measured reductions in the wrist angles will, in the long term, decrease the risk of musculoskeletal symptoms and disorders developing in the wrist”*

The report is available on [iTip Health and Safety](#). There is an additional report at the same location showing how they have been independently tests for strength. iTip Safety Handles are rated and exceed the HSE's guidance.

Since being introduced to the health and safety industry, Practitioners have found additional benefits from iTip Safety Handles including being used on cement mixers and roll cages. The HSE have a roll cage with iTip Safety Handles at their Buxton Laboratories, to demonstrate safety innovation. In fact, the Innovation Society awarded them the Best International Invention of the Year. They have also won awards such as Product of the Year, Best New Tool, and Best of British. The Highways industry have marked them “Highly Commended” and recently awarded them with the Innovation Festival 2023 Local Council Roads Innovation Group (LCRIG) winner of the Fleet and Equipment award.





iTip Safety Handles are designed to reduce manual handling injuries.



ezTip Safety Handles have the same safety properties and are great when a cleaning process is difficult.



Safety Handles provide protection in many manual handling situations.

## Sustainability

A key parameter for innovation is to make the product as sustainable as possible. To this end iTip Safety Handles break down in the correct compostable conditions. They are manufactured in Slough, the UK, to reduce their carbon footprint. The nature of manual handling also reduces the need for carbon producing powered equipment to move loads.

## Availability

iTip Safety Handles are currently available from [www.SafetyHandles.co.uk](http://www.SafetyHandles.co.uk). They are supplied individually and in bulk trade packs of various multiples. Please contact us on 0333 800 5000 for an account. The commercial products are provided in high visibility colours to enhance the safety capability. Individual high visibility commercial sets of iTip or ezTip Handles are available at £25 (+VAT). For exports, please call Paul on 0333 800 5000.

## Summary

iTip Safety Handles are an inexpensive control measure designed to improve safety and comfort.

*“iTip Handles are an easy way to show we care about the welfare of our team”*

Ross Bullerwell Managing Director of North Yorkshire Highways.

For details contact [Hello@SafetyHandles.co.uk](mailto:Hello@SafetyHandles.co.uk) ring 0333 800 5000 or visit [www.SafetyHandles.co.uk](http://www.SafetyHandles.co.uk).

