

• **Sling Selection**

Sling choice is one of the most critical elements of designing a Multi-Lift system for your customer. When recommending a Multi-Lift, you should always demonstrate the appropriate sling with the actual user and verify for correct fit and function before proceeding with a sale.

- *Most Multi-Lift slings use the “back saver” design. “Back saver” means horseshoe –shaped as indicated in the sling drawing in the section titled “Multi-Lift Parts-General”. The “back saver” design allows the user to place the sling in position at any time with no lifting whatsoever.*
- *The general-use sling is the most popular sling for auto and home use. It is moisture-absorbent, comfortable, and flexible for easy placement around the user.*
- *For a user requiring a water-resistant sling or where moisture may be a concern, the bath sling will serve best. For users with little or no neck support, a head support sling may be required.*
- *If the user has little or no ability to support his or her head, then a head-support sling is required. The head support sling incorporates support slats into the back of the sling, and an extended “hood” to support the back of the head. If the user still experiences head stability problems with a head support sling due to roll, contact your Access Unlimited salesperson to include a custom anti head-roll support band with your sling.*
- *For independent users, and when ease of placement and removal is a primary concern, we recommend the two-piece “quick-sling”. Although the Quick Sling is more convenient to insert, it concentrates pressure on the upper back, armpits, and the thighs. Therefore it should only be used when these types of pressure do not create an undue risk for the user, and when all other slings have been considered.*
- *For a user who must remain horizontal and/or in a straight position, use the stretcher sling. The stretcher sling utilizes rigid slats in its bottom, minimizing any bending for the user. In many circumstances, a custom spreader bar will also be required for this application. Contact your Access Unlimited Salesperson before recommending this sling.*
- *There are a host of slings and configurations, each with its advantages for a particular user. For a standard “back saver” style sling, the sling should be large enough to come up to the bottoms of the user’s shoulder blades. The lower the function level of the user, the higher the sling should come towards the armpits. The sling should not pull up on the armpits, however, because this could cause discomfort or impact arm function. The leg tabs should extend up through the legs far enough so that the minimum contact width between the thighs and the fabric of the sling is 4” (100mm)*
- *For users wearing skirts or dresses, the recommended sling is one that is 1-2 sizes larger than a normal fit for that person’s build. Cross each leg tab under both legs, before attaching the triangles to the center spreader bar pin. If the inward pressure on the user’s legs is too great due to this configuration, then attach the sling triangles to the outer spreader bar pins along with the back support strap triangles. Although this change alleviates inward pressure on the legs, it sacrifices the anti-rocking feature found in the Multi-Lift’s innovative spreader bar design.*
- *For bilateral above-the-knee amputees, use the amputee sling. The amputee sling is one of two slings in the Multi-Lift product line which does not utilize the open-bottomed “back saver” sling design. Therefore, the sling must be put in place in the wheelchair or other mobility device and the user must transfer onto it.*
- *For users who require a specific wheelchair cushion under their buttocks and thighs at all times, use the rigid-bottomed wheelchair cushion sling. This sling incorporates a rigid board in a pouch in the bottom, which provides a base for the user’s wheelchair cushion. This sling is generally left in place while the user is in the wheelchair. Typically this sling will be required for users with osteogenesis imperfecta (a.k.a. brittle bone disorder) and other disabilities where any concentration of pressure under the user could result in broken bones, blood clots, skin breakdown, or other injuries.*
- *Seat Lift Swing Arm- Generally used in conjunction with an installation involving two or more Multi-Lifts, the seat lift swing arm replaces the spreader bar and sling with an integrated swing arm/seat assembly. This option greatly enhances the Multi-Lift’s flexibility, but is applicable only in situations where a safe transfer can be performed onto and off of the seat. Do not recommend this option if there is any possibility that the seat could move during the transfer process, causing the user to fall. Contact your Access Unlimited salesperson before recommending this option.*
- *For users who regularly experience involuntary “extension”, there is the anti-extension sling.*