

Title: Stryker Power Pro Ambulance Cot

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Purpose: To establish a procedure for the proper operation, use, and maintenance of the Stryker Power Pro Ambulance Cot.

Scope: This procedure shall be followed by all members of the department and shall be supervised by the Fire-Rescue Division – EMS Supervisors. Any deviation of this procedure will require prior notification of the EMS Supervisors or their designee. These procedures are based upon the recommendations from the cot manufacturer.

General: The department will utilize the Stryker Power Pro Model 6500 Ambulance Cot to transport patients to hospitals when needed. This ambulance cot will be located on each one of our transport units.

To stay in tune with our department's more common terminology, the ambulance cot described in this guideline will be referred to as a Stretcher throughout the rest of this document.

330.04.01. General Operations Guidelines:

- Use the stretcher only as described in this guideline.
- Read all labels and instructions on stretcher before using it.
- Note that improper use of the Power Pro Stretcher can cause injury to the patient and the operator.

330.04.02. Safety Guidelines:

- A minimum of **2 Operators** is needed to manipulate the stretcher when there is a patient on it.
- Although the stretcher is battery-operated, remember to use proper lifting techniques while operating the stretcher at all times.
- **ALL** patient restraint straps must be utilized at all times.
- The stretcher can be in any position for rolling.

330.04.03. Adjusting Stretcher Height:

- Grasp the stretcher frame at the foot-end, and depress the (+) button to raise the stretcher.
- Grasp the stretcher frame at the foot-end, and depress the (-) button to lower the stretcher.

In the event of loss of electrical function, the Power Pro is equipped with a manual override to allow manual operation of the stretcher.

The **RED** manual release lever is located along the patient left side of the lower lift bar at the foot end of the stretcher.

To lower the stretcher with the manual release:

- Must have one operator at each end of stretcher.
- Operators must lift the stretcher weight slightly off the wheels when a patient is on it in order for the manual release lever to work.
- Operator at the foot end pulls the manual release lever.
- Both operators support the weight of the stretcher and patient while raising and lowering.

**** A MINIMUM OF 2 OPERATORS IS REQUIRED WHEN ADJUSTING STRETCHER HEIGHT IF THERE IS A PATIENT ON IT ****

330.04.04. Loading the Stretcher into a Vehicle – Powered Method:

- Place the stretcher in the loading position (any position where the loading wheels meet the vehicle floor height)
- Push the stretcher forward until the load wheels are on the patient compartment floor and the safety bar passes the safety hook. **(There must be a safety hook installed in every vehicle that will be utilizing the Power Pro)**
- 2 OPERATORS: Located at the foot-end:
 - Operator 1 – Grasp the stretcher frame at the foot end and push the retract (-) button until the undercarriage of the stretcher retracts fully.
 - Operator 2 – Securely grasp the stretcher outer rail to stabilize the stretcher during retraction.
- Both Operators – Push the stretcher into the patient compartment until the stretcher is firmly secured.

**** Loading an unoccupied stretcher into the vehicle can be accomplished by a single operator using the same method****

330.04.05. Unloading the Stretcher from a Vehicle – Powered Method:

- Disengage the stretcher from the stretcher bracket.
- 2 OPERATORS: Located at the foot-end
 - Operator 1 – Grasp the stretcher at the foot end. Pull the stretcher out until the safety bar engages the safety hook. *Operator 2 should verify that the bar engages the safety hook.*
 - Operator 2 – Stabilize the stretcher during the unloading operation.
 - Operator 1 – Depress the extend (+) button to lower the undercarriage to its fully extended position.
 - Operator 2 – Push the safety bar release lever forward to disengage the safety bar from the safety hook in patient compartment.

****Unloading an unoccupied stretcher from a vehicle can be accomplished by a single operator using the same method****

330.04.06. Loading the Stretcher into a Vehicle – Manual Method:

- Place the stretcher in the loading position (any position where the loading wheels meet the vehicle floor height)
- Push the stretcher forward until the load wheels are on the patient compartment floor and the safety bar passes the safety hook. **(There must be a safety hook installed in every vehicle that will be utilizing the Power Pro)**
- 2 OPERATORS:
 - Operator 1 – Grasp the stretcher frame at the foot end. Lift the foot end of the cot until the weight is off the latching mechanism. Squeeze and hold the release handle.
 - Operator 2 – Grasp the base frame. After the foot end operator has lifted the stretcher and squeezed the release handle, raise the undercarriage until it stops in the uppermost position and hold it there.
 - Both Operators – Push the stretcher into the patient compartment until the stretcher is firmly secured.

330.04.07. Unloading the Stretcher from a Vehicle – Manual Method:

- Disengage the stretcher from the stretcher bracket.
- 2 OPERATORS:
 - Operator 1 – Grasp the stretcher at the foot end. Pull the stretcher out while pressing the manual release lever to lower the undercarriage to its fully extended position. Pull the stretcher out until the safety bar engages the safety hook. *Operator 2 should verify that the bar engages the safety hook.*
 - Operator 2 – Stabilize the stretcher during the unloading operation.
 - Operator 2 – Push the safety bar release lever forward to disengage the safety bar from the safety hook in patient compartment.

330.04.08. Battery Power Level:

The Power Pro Stretcher is powered by a DeWALT 24volt Battery System. Battery power level is displayed by the “battery power indicator”, which is a light that is located at the foot end of the stretcher.

- The indicator lights **GREEN** when the battery is fully charged, or has adequate charged battery power.
- The indicator flashes **RED** when the battery needs to be recharged or replaced. **** When the indicator is flashing red, the stretcher has approximately 3 patient lifts remaining****

Each Rescue Unit has been equipped with a DeWALT Battery charging system, and an extra battery.

330.04.09. Cleaning the Power Pro Ambulance Stretcher:

- The Power Pro Ambulance Stretcher is designed to be washable. The unit may show some signs of oxidation or discoloration from continuous washing, but no loss of performance or functionality will occur from cleaning.
- The stretcher should be thoroughly cleaned after each use.
- If the stretcher is going to be exposed to large amounts of water (ex: hose down), the battery **MUST BE REMOVED**.
- Use only non-corrosive types of disinfectants / cleaners, and avoid over-saturation of electrical components.
- Towel dry all components after cleaning.