

2025 04 20

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Mobile Track Stretcher System device which has been developed by a very skilled and experience group of individuals revolutionizing safe and efficient patient transportation in adverse conditions. As a lifelong first response professional in various roles, I have seen many applications for a mobilizing transportation device that was left up to makeshift “bush fixes” and dangerous fatiguing manual labour. These situations have caused countless episodic pain/ strain injuries up to including significant personal injury and countless dollars of workers being offline in some capacity. The care and thought put into designing this piece of equipment comes from individuals who have real life experience in what safe patient transport involves. They also convey how it can go very wrong, placing this knowledge directly in the minds of engineers to create a uniquely developed piece of equipment that has a place in every first response field.

Over time, people have moved further and further away from urban centers where high volumes of response individuals and stable, flat terrain is more the everyday norm decreasing many challenged individuals reside in recluse locations. The rural setting and remote, rugged, wooded areas that people adventure to is an entirely different set of challenges traditionally including long periods of challenging patient care and delayed accessibility. This in mind, even urban centers now present many situations of difficult extrication, confined spaces and less mobile obese individuals and remote areas where housing challenged individuals often recluse in parks and wooded areas long distances

from road accessibility. The present manual ergonomically incorrect positioning of first responders increases the risk of being unable to complete the task due to fatigue or injury. The other often overlooked critical factor in the remote rural setting is having adequate persons and resources on scene in a timely fashion due to large geographic coverage areas. Servicing these situations and bringing definitive mobilizing transport quickly and effectively will undoubtedly save lives and reduce an already strained system of responding individuals.

In seeing how this Track Mobilization Stretcher performs with its versatility and diversity of applications as a 35-year career paramedic and over 30 years as a volunteer firefighter and remote Arctic outpost nursing, I cannot picture an environment where this equipment doesn't have a valuable role in safe patient transport with a daily use application. In healthcare, when you look around at the other stakeholders hospitals and long term care facilities and places that 24 hours a day care for individuals with mobility issues there is a huge shift in providing lifting and transportation devices to assist in safe patient movement to decrease staff injuries in what is arguably a very controlled working environment. So much so that they have adopted a “no lift policies” to protect their staff. It is at this point the paramedics are called to prevent other injuries and daily risking our own health.

Paramedics by nature become masters of extrication from generally very difficult confined spaces continually risking our health and safety for others. The time is now to finally take a step forward in this profession augmenting a system which not only provides very safe and stable transportation of the sick and injured, but it also provides a long awaited opportunity to make providing these never ending services to people NOT at the expense of first responder safety. The other revolutionary piece that the Track Mobilization Stretcher Device adds is it allows ongoing patient care to be provided during extrication, and it requires only a single controller driver of the unit. This technology provides an opportunity for hands free

movement of sick or injured people while afforded the benefit of providing continual lifesaving procedures, stabilizing injuries, introducing medications without delay while continually moving towards the exit point.

In conclusion, in my professional opinion I fully support the introduction of the Mobile Track Stretcher as a brilliant piece of equipment that would have a very integral part in all first response provider and military systems as a long awaited device to be introduced on a daily basis by all acquiring agencies using one stretcher .

Thank you for your time and efforts,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Andy Fortington ACP