

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On March 10, 2006 the FDA released the long awaited document, "Hospital Bed System Dimensional and Assessment Guidance to Reduce Entrapment." This guidance is the result of seven years of research carried out by the Hospital Bed Safety Workgroup (HBSW) consisting of representatives from both the government and the private sector. The HBSW mission has been the analysis of patient/resident bed entrapments. Between 1985 and 2005 there were 691 reported incidents among the nation's 2.5 million Long Term Care and Hospital beds, which resulted in 413 deaths.

The Posey Company has been participating in these HBSW workgroup sessions for several years, monitoring the development of the Guidance and role that Posey Bed Safety products can play in supporting the recommendations of the workgroup. The FDA has identified seven (7) common entrapment zones and provides pass/fail criteria for four (4) of the zones that pose the highest risk.

Posey Bed Safety Products can help healthcare professionals and risk managers with solutions that address and mitigate one or more of the FDA identified patient entrapment zones on many of the 2.5 million Long Term and Hospital beds in use today. You can view Posey's full line of products at www.posey.com. We also offer a reference guide entitled "Bed Entrapment Solution Guide" (reorder # MK1356), which cross-references popular bed models with compatible Posey products.

Posey recommends that interested parties read and become familiar with the complete FDA document, which can be found at: <http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/beds/>. The FDA, in coordination with the ISO/IEC on an international level, is committed to continuing its work on the remaining entrapment zones. Posey is also committed to keeping up-to-date with developments and continue to provide Bed Safety solutions for Healthcare facilities nationwide.

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