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**May 2009**

A special needs cot was presented in a bid to a Massachusetts' agency as offering characteristics which would meet the bid requirements. The bed offered was noted to be a Med-A-Cot 450. We believe from our research that this is ProPac Model L2030-SRG. As we had not previously tested this bed, we ordered one and received it in early May. Attached are pictures and verbiage to describe the bed and test results. We have made every reasonable effort to determine the origin/brand of the product. In any case, if there is a difference in these two beds, our tests stand for the unit we purchased and tested.

Note that there are no industry test standards that we are aware of, as such, we use testing methods developed to support our product development, internal testing and test requirements of the Consumer Testing Lab in Bentonville, AR which was the required facility to support our sales of folding aluminum chairs to Wal-Mart.

For our special needs cots, the Westcot 400 and Westcot 400 APC, we use a 440# sack of lead about 18" in diameter and settle load that sack a minimum of 5,000 times. We do this at three locations – head, center and foot ends of the bed to replicate real life scenarios of field use. We have seen the beds used as couches with as many as 3 people sitting on them. We also recognize that patients may "fall" into the bed versus just settle in and thus the bed must be able to take a great deal of abuse. We test other products the way we test our beds even though there may be no claims as to weight capacity. Beds noted as "special needs" are inferring that they are able to meet the demands of both patient and caregiver in many unforgiving circumstances.

**Settle Load test May 15, 2009 - TEI/IMS Mfg Plant Report**

A settle load test was performed on a Pro Pac Pro Cot model number L2030-SRG Oversized Special Needs Cot. The cot was constructed out of painted aluminum with a woven mesh decking material. The decking material was secured to the frame by a plastic rope spline inserted into the sewn pockets of the decking and then inserted into a channel in the extruded aluminum frame rail. The cot measured 30.5 x 79.5 x 19.75 tall.

The box was received in fair shape. The side rails were packed into the carton along with the cot in a loose manner, allowing them to shift during transit. One side rail was bent and rendered unusable. Additionally, one of the anti-tilt legs was bent at the top.

The anti tilts as well as the included IV pole were constructed out of aluminum tubes, the ends of which were left open and exposed, using no safety plugs. See pictures.

A mattress was included in the carton. It was constructed utilizing a woven polyester hollow-fill type product stuffing sealed into a light weight bag and then covered by a removable zippered cover.

The cot was secured to the test fixture platform and positioned under the weighted bag. A load of 450 lbs was applied to the bed for 21 cycles at which time, failure occurred.

## Results

The cot experienced catastrophic failure on the 21<sup>st</sup> application of 450 lbs. The main frame broke at the hole pierced in the frame to accept the rivet that secures the U clip to the frame and the inclinable back. The speed of the collapse was astounding. It pitched the cot violently to the left ripping the leg from the floor mounted bracket that was keeping the cot in place

**The cot failed the test.**

## Conclusion 5/16/09

After the test we inspected the broken cot and discovered the following:

1. The cross braces that connect the two sides of the cot are made of painted steel and not mechanically connected to the frame. They are merely spacers held in place by way of loose fitting plastic plugs. See pix
2. The above mentioned braces/spacers are used to support the foot and head incline adjusters.
3. The cot main frame is basically held together by ONLY the center leg T bracket which is riveted.



Mattress Design



Hollow-fill core

