

## Introducing the New ASL-S Stannah Wheelchair Stairlift

Later this year will see the introduction and product launch of the all new Stannah ASL-S.

Throughout the design and development of this new product Stannah Lifts Ltd have employed the services of design consultants as well as members from all departments including installers and service engineers for their expertise and feedback within their respective fields.

After extensive research a new design has been reached which is more aesthetically pleasing with plastic mouldings, is more compact and is altogether lighter.

The Stairlift is designed to carry persons with impaired mobility, whether standing, or sitting in a wheelchair, with or without an attendant. It has a positive rack and pinion drive and is powered by a 0.55Kw, 3 phase AC brake motor up a straight stairway.

The lift is microprocessor controlled with soft start and stopping of the carriage via the inverter control of the AC motor. Other improvements include user friendly controls on the carriage and landings, easier wiring looms and simplified design for the barrier arms and folding platform which are driven by linear actuators with current sensing circuits. Stylish extruded aluminium rails replace the current rolled steel sections.

These benefits offer cost savings in reduced assembly and servicing times.

Designers Nick Caira, from the mechanical design office, and Richard Baugh, from the electrical design office have been working for many months to produce a prototype of the new model.

For the first time, we decided to assist the future launch with a "Cycle Time Workshop" for this exciting new product. Each appropriate department was represented by one member who contributed to reviewing the whole process from lead through to enquiry,

to installation, to service. The benefits will include increased productivity, improved quality, cost savings, team building, motivated staff, higher profits, and the major benefit of customer satisfaction.

A product champion, Adam Poyser, was appointed to form a core team, to establish departments requirements and to create a company-wide awareness of the new product.



*Adam Poyser  
Product Champion*

Adam is to project-manage the pre-production and product launch and is available as a point of contact to ensure the product is launched on time. He and his core team attend weekly meetings with any others as felt necessary to set and reset goals and objectives and to communicate to all parties.

We look forward to a successful launch in the summer. ♦

