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New Products

Medtrade

Innovation reigns

WWW.HMENEWS.COM / NOVEMBER 2006 / HME NEWS

learning to flush.

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The Innovation Award went to Magic Wheel's 2-Gear Wheelchair Drive, a lightweight, geared wheel for manual wheelchairs that, when engaged, creates a 2:1 ratio for every revolution of the hand rim.

"With our wheel, if you come across any terrain or incline, you can reach down to the hub and there's basically some paddles that you can push forward and it engages the reduction gearing," said Allan Boyd, vice president of business development for the Seattle, Wash.-based company. "It's literally twice as easy to get up the hill—it takes 50% less effort."

That, in turn, eases shoulder pain for wheelchair users, who frequently suffer degeneration that requires surgery.

"To go up even a small hill, it's tough," said Boyd. "Your shoulder is not designed to do that."

Theresa Flaherty Associate Editor

ATLANTA - MacGyver couldn't have done it without this award.

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