

Eliminating the risks of mobile lifting

The National Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) research² and private studies highlight the risks of spinal shear and compression force injury when pushing and pulling a mobile total lift. The amount of force a person can safely push and pull depends on the person's size and body structure. Research studies report that a person can safely push up to 20% of their body weight and pull up to 30% of their body weight¹. When measuring the push-pull forces required to operate a mobile lift with various quantities of weight loaded; studies reveal the amount of force required, often exceeds maximum safe working load for some users. This exposes a gap in many hospital and healthcare facilities patient handling standards internationally.



These studies highlight the need for a fully powered mobile lift, one capable of lifting the maximum 600lb load with safe push-pull force limited. The EvaDrive is a fully powered mobile total lift. The large rear wheels can fully rotate from forward facing to a lateral position. This allows for normal transfers, tight rotations, and lateral movements.



Handicare performed a study designed to parallel the NIOSH research². In this study a 59kg/130lb female 64in/162.6cm nurse performed pushing and

pulling with both the EvaDrive and a standard mobile total lift with these variables measured.

- Peak push force- carpeted surface, hardwood surface, concrete surface.
- Peak pull force- carpeted surface, hardwood surface, concrete surface.

The test was performed on each surface with the following weight loaded on both lifts.

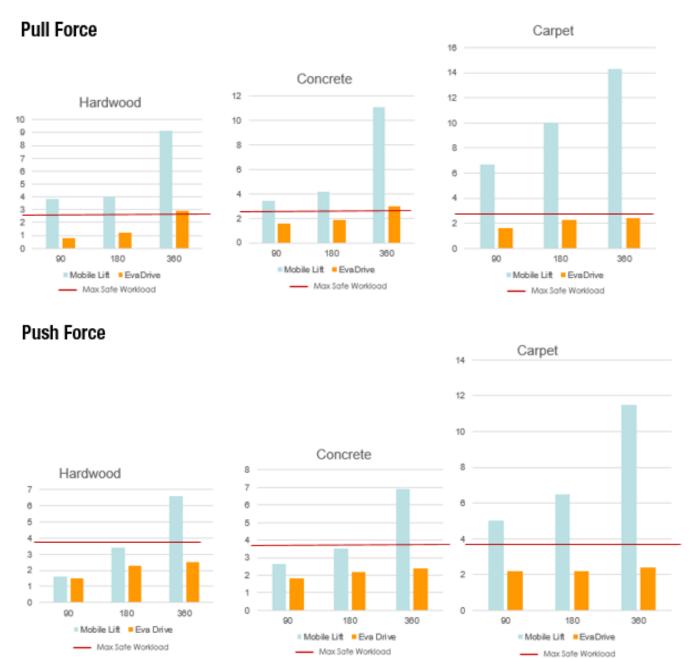
- 90lb/41kg
- 180lb/82kg
- 360lb/164kg



DATA

Each variable measurement was repeated three times and averaged to calculate the values reported here.

The following graphs represent the average measurements for peak <u>PULL</u> and <u>PUSH</u> forces. The horizontal line represents the safe maximum working load for the test subject.



- Knapik GG, Marras WS. Spine loading at different lumbar levels during pushing and pulling. Ergonomics. 2009 Jan; 52(1): 60-70.
- Waters Thomas, Collins James, Galinsky Traci, Claire Caruso NIOSH Research Efforts to Prevent Musculoskeletal Disorders in the Healthcare Industry Orthopaedic Nursing, 2006 Nov/Dec; 25 (8)

