# User manual

Next and Next Comfort, English

# oetac<sup>®</sup>

74731D 2015-03-16





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# Next, Next Comfort

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# Explanation of symbols



Do not lift the chair using the armrests.



Risk of tipping: Always have the anti-tip stabilisers lowered when manoeuvring.

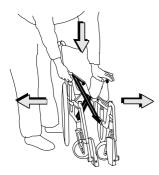


Always ensure the tyre pressure is correct.



When adjusting seat height, balance position or backrest angle, operation of the anti-tip stabilisers must be checked.

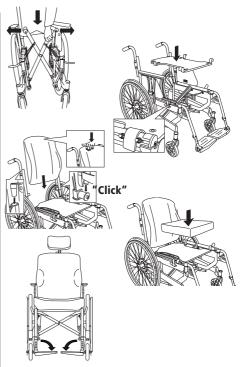
# **Unfolding Next**





- Push one of the seat bars down wards, placing your entire hand on top of the seat.
- Do not hold the seat bar when unfolding the chair, as there is a risk of trapped fingers.
- Unfold the footrests.

# Unfolding Next Comfort



- Push one of the seat bars down wards, placing your entire hand on top of the seat bar.
- Do not hold the seat bar when unfolding the chair, as there is a risk of trapped fingers.
- Assemble seat, back pad and seat cushion.
- Unfold the footrests.

# Fitting/removing wheel

- Keep the button in the hub depressed while fitting/removing the wheel.
- When assembling, always check that the wheel axle locks properly.
- The button should spring out to original position.



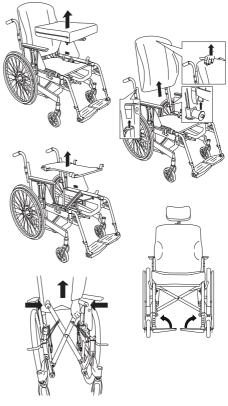
# Folding Next





- Remove/unsnap bow handle and/or cross-brace, if applicable.
- Flip up the footrests.
- Lift the seat upwards.

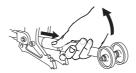
# Folding Next Comfort



- Remove seat cushion, back pad and seat.
- Flip up the footrests.
- Lift the seat bar upwards.

# Anti-tip stabilisers

The anti-tip stabilisers can be folded up.



#### Backrest cover Next



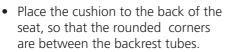
- Lay the backrest cover far enough back on the seat for a fold to be formed between backrest and seat.
- It is important to always place the backrest cover in this way, as it affects sitting comfort.

#### Seat cushion Next Comfort



• Position the cushion at the front edge of the seat.





- Trim the cushion to suit seat depth.
- Place the comfort wedge in the pocket of the cover under the cushion.

#### Backrest upholstery Next





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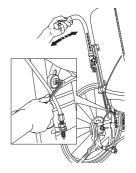
• Loosen all back straps.

**Back pad Next Comfort** 

- Tighten the strap just below the curve of the back.
- Adjust the other straps to allow space for the bottom and follow the natural curve of the back.
- Loosen all backrest straps.
  Tighten the strap just below
- Tighten the strap just below the curve of the user's back.
- Adjust the other straps to allow space for the bottom and follow the natural curve of the back.

# Backrest angle and backrest height

- The backrest angle may need to be changed when adjusting the shape of the backrest upholstery/back pad.
- Remove the back pad before adjusting the backrest height (Next Comfort).
- If backrest angle or backrest height is changed, backrest upholstery/ back pad may need to be adjusted.



## Other settings Next/Next Comfort

#### Footrest

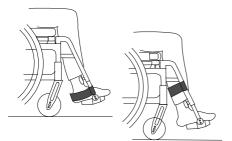


- Adjust the height so that the feet are supported and the thighs rest against the cushion.
- Adjust the footrest angle, so the ankles are at a 90° angle.



• Undo the wing nut (A) on the leg rest. Pull out the screw (B). Adjust the height. Replace the screw and nut. Tighten securely. Loosen screws (C), adjust the angle. Tighten.

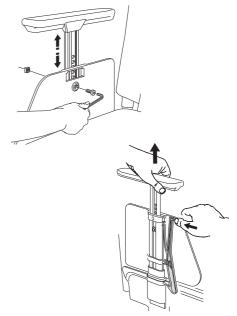
# Calf/Heel straps



• Adjust the length so that the insteps rest on the footrests.

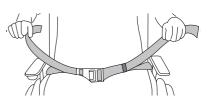
#### Armrest

- Undo the screw and nut.
- Move the side plate up or down to the required height.
- Secure the side plate again.



• The high position of the armrests supports and relieves pressure on the back better than a lower position.





• A positioning belt is available as an accessory and is attached according to enclosed assembly instruction.

## Transferring to/from a wheelchair

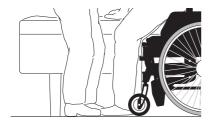
#### Sideways

# From the front



- Back the wheelchair up 5-10 cm before stopping so that the castors face forwards\*.
- Position the wheelchair close to the new seat.
- Lock the brakes.
- Remove the armrest/siderest and legrest on the transfer side.
- Do not stand on the footrests, risk of tipping!

# \*Castor facing forwards

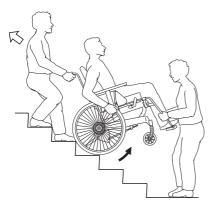




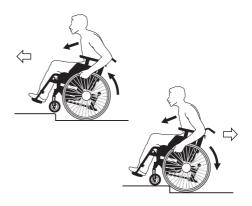
- Back the wheelchair up 5-10 cm so that the castors face forwards\*.
- Position the wheelchair close to the new seat.
- Lock the brakes and swivel the legrests out or in under the seat.
- Do not stand on the footrests, risk of tipping!
- Increase the support area of the wheelchair by backing up 10 cm so that the castors face forwards.
- Helper: Lock the brakes and ensure that the anti-tip stabilisers are lowered.

#### **Stairs**

Kerbs



- Always ask for help.
- We always recommend using two ca- If you are unsure, ask for help. rers for this transfer. One who walks behind and holds on to the push handle and one who walks in front and holds on to the frame (or in the legrests if these are lockable).
- Raise the anti-tip stabilisers.
- Up/Down: The back of the wheelchair should always be turned towards the stairs.
- Never use an escalator, even with a helper.



- Raise the anti-tip stabilisers.
- Up/Low kerb: Back up, take a strong grip and lean your upper body over your thighs.
- Down/Low kerb: Back up carefully and lean your upper body over your thighs.

Lower the anti-tip stabilisers again!

# Lifting the wheelchair

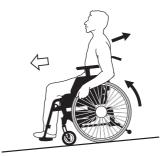


• Ensure that the height-adjustable push handles are properly tightened.

#### Going up a slope



• Lean your body forward to correct the centre of gravity.



- Lean your body backward to correct the centre of gravity.
- Control your speed using the handrims, not the brakes!
- Always use as direct a route up or down as possible.
- If you are unsure, ask for help.

#### Next Comfort hub brake

If you need to stop on a slope and lock the brakes, it can feel as if the brake levers have jammed when you try to unlock them again.

Uphill slope: Downhill slope:	Push the handrim forward as you release the brake. Brace your weight against the handrim as you release the
With a helper:	brake. Push the wheelchair gently forward or brace your weight against it as the brakes are released.
Experienced wheelchair user:	"Rock" your upper body as the brakes are released.

# Vehicle transport

Etac recommends in the following order:

- 1) The user transfers to one of the seats in the vehicle and uses the vehicle's 3-point belt while travelling. The wheelchair is then placed in the boot or safely in the back seat so that it cannot overturn or roll
- 2) The wheelchair is secured facing forwards the anti-tips must be lowered in the vehicle as per point 2:5, the user uses a separate 3-point belt that is secured in the vehicle. This is the way in which the wheelchair is tested and approved according to the ISO-standard for crash testing of wheelchairs in vehicles
- 3) According to directive 2001/85/EC, appendix VII, point 3.8.3. there are specially marked wheelchair locations in vehicles that permit transport with a wheelchair facing in the opposite direction of travel. If this means of travel is used, the user/care giver must be aware while travelling, prepared for sudden movements and have the capacity to maintain a safe sitting position throughout the entire journey. The user's disabilities must not be of such an extent that he/she is not able to hold onto the handles fitted in the vehicle when there are changes of speed or direction.

#### Securing

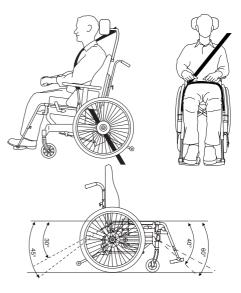
Mobility service bus or similar: The wheelchair must be secured in the transport attachment as shown in the diagram. The straps must not be passed through the wheels or around the back tubes.

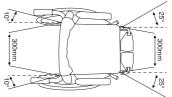
# Car/taxi

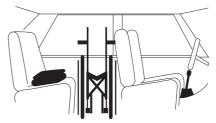
- Ideally, the wheelchair should be placed in the boot.
- If the chair is placed in the back seat. ensure that it cannot tip over or move. Secure it, if possible using the vehicle's seat belts.

In conjunction with points 2 and 3:

- a positioning belt must be used
- a correctly adjusted headrest must be used
- the backrest must be level with or above the user's shoulders
- the parking brake must be used
- a heel strap must be used
- a cross brace must be used (not with ECS back support)
- rear wheels must have handrims







### Maintenance

Rear wheels:	Clean quick release axles as required.
Tyre pressure:	Check tyre pressure, see tyre page (once a month).
Castors:	Clean castor axles as required.
Chassis:	Clean the chassis with non-abrasive detergent, pH value 5-9 or
	with 70 % disinfectant solution. Rinse and dry.
Upholstery:	Wash - see label on upholstery.
	In the event of problems, contact your Assistive Equipment
	Centre.

(!) When necessary, lubricate moving parts/joints with cycle oil or similar.

# Troubleshooting table

The wheelchair is pulling diagonally	<ul> <li>Pump up the tyres</li> <li>The rear wheel mountings are incorrectly fitted</li> <li>The user's weight is not evenly distributed in the wheelchair</li> <li>The driving force is stronger on one side.</li> <li>Release the tilt handle so that the bars are parallel (Next Comfort)</li> </ul>
The wheelchair is difficult to manoeuvre	<ul> <li>Pump up the tyres</li> <li>The rear wheel mountings are incorrectly fitted</li> <li>Remove any hair or dirt from the castor axles</li> <li>Too much weight over the castors; adjust the wheelchair's balance position</li> </ul>
The wheelchair is difficult to turn	<ul> <li>Pump up the tyres</li> <li>Check that the front forks can rotate</li> <li>Remove any hair or dirt from the castor axles</li> <li>Too much weight over the castors; adjust the wheelchair's balance position</li> </ul>
The brakes are ineffective	- Pump up the tyres
The rear wheels are "loose"	- Adjust the hub axle length
The rear wheels are difficult to fit/remove	- Lubricate and clean the quick release with cycle oil or similar - Adjust the hub axle length
The castors "wobble"	<ul> <li>The front forks have not been tightened sufficiently</li> <li>Too much weight over the castors; adjust the wheelchair's balance position</li> </ul>
The wheelchair is difficult to fold/unfold	- The upholstery is too taut - Lubricate and clean the cross elements under the seat
The wheelchair feels "unsteady"	<ul> <li>Pump up the tyres</li> <li>Check that screws, handrims and brakes are properly tightened</li> </ul>



