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## **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES TO HAVE GREATER ACCESS TO STACKABLE TRANSPORTATION CHAIRS**

**TORONTO and LONDON** – 22 January 2010 – Toronto-based STAXI, the world's leading developer and manufacturer of nestable transportation chairs, today announced that it is making its standard STAXI and STAXI-Maxi (for up to 1,000 pound capacity) transportation chairs available to prison services, penitentiaries, penal institutions and correctional facilities worldwide.

STAXI's mobility industry specialist David Gallant, who heads its Global Marketing Operations, said that there has been great interest from the penal sector for a number of reasons, which include the fact that STAXI transportation chairs are the most robust, economical, and easy-to-use mobility solution available – and STAXI has a number of safety advantages for prison systems.

According to David Gallant, STAXI advantages for penal institutions include being:

- **Hard to Steal** – STAXI is theft resistant, it has no removable parts
- **Built to last** – the comfortable, rugged design provides longer life than normal wheelchairs
- **Safety** – STAXI has an automatic braking system (ABS) to prevent injury; also, parts cannot be stolen or converted into weapons by those serving custodial sentences
- **Cost effective** – low-maintenance requirement and rare replacement frequency means a much higher return on investment than with wheelchairs
- **Simple to use** - ergonomic and highly manoeuvrable - easier to push than regular wheelchairs, making passenger transfer easy; use is comfortable for passengers and attendants; and, it can turn on its own circumference using only one hand
- **Storage** – STAXI has ample inbuilt storage for files / records behind the seat back and 2.5 cubic ft (70 litres) under-seat space personal belongings
- **Easy to find** – STAXI's space saving design requires less than 1/3 space of wheelchairs; and, it can be tracked via colour-coding for different sectors or using RFID

David Gallant said: “STAXI presents a rather new concept for the correctional facility sector. Already, many healthcare facilities, airports and theme parks internationally are familiar with the concept of what is commonly called ‘stackable wheelchairs.’ However, STAXI is quite different from other mobility solutions; it is a safe, robust and comfortable transportation alternative that pays for itself.”

“It’s also a win-win situation: STAXI provides a more comfortable and easier experience and institutions and organisations have a trouble-free transportation solution that provides safety, value and return on investment.”

STAXI is the accepted leader in the field of innovative patient mobility assistance. It is established globally – in use for more than 15 years. Moreover, the STAXI nestable transportation chairs are used successfully and widely in the USA’s most prestigious airports and healthcare systems.

“Most of the interest from penal institutions is coming from the US with European systems beginning to also consider the STAXI’s many advantages over wheelchairs. STAXI makes sound business sense in an era when penal systems and managers need to make a critical financial case for every dollar, euro, peso or pound they spend. If something can pay for itself overtime, such as STAXI, then it is all the better for them in the long run,” said David Gallant.

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### **About STAXI**

STAXI is a patented, revolutionary transport chair, developed in 1985 by Andrew J Hart in conjunction with *Centre for Studies in Aging, Sunnybrook & Women’s College Health Sciences* (Toronto), initially as a patient transportation solution. STAXI is the leading *wheelchair alternative* and the best-selling, nestable transport chair in North America.

STAXI provides safe and comfortable temporary transportation for people who would have difficulty walking any considerable distances due to disability, illness or injury. STAXI is ergonomically designed to reduce physical strain and burden for the user.

The award-winning STAXI transport chair is built specifically for large, busy facilities such as airports, hospitals and sporting/entertainment venues. STAXI customers include top hospitals and major airlines and airports in the USA, UK and Europe.

STAXI can instantly replace 90 per cent of wheelchairs today. Moreover, STAXI has the best low-maintenance record for any mobility solution, backed with a three-year unlimited parts warranty. STAXI is difficult to steal by virtue of its nestable design. Hence, STAXI pays for itself over the long life of the transport chair.

A complete list of STAXI customers can be found at [www.staxi.com/us\\_clients.asp](http://www.staxi.com/us_clients.asp). A video can be viewed at <http://www.staxi.com/staxivideo.asp>.

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