

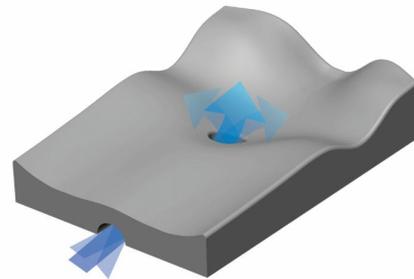


## Stay cool...

Heat and moisture, combined with the stresses of prolonged sitting, can contribute to pressure injuries.

Cushions designed around immersion technologies (think air or gel-filled) are intended to conform completely to boney areas, thus sealing off the pelvis from significant air flow.

This can cause the skin to be warmer, damp, and clammy. Moist skin is not healthy skin.



In contrast, Ride's cushion designs take an altogether different approach: holding the high-risk areas up and away from the surface of the cushion, creating space for air to flow between the skin and the cushion. These patented, skin-friendly interface designs make all the difference in helping to manage heat and moisture.

The diagram shows the Ride Custom 2 Cushion airflow via a ventilation channel option.

Learn more about ventilation [here](#).



## Advocacy: It's never been more important

Funding for complex rehab technology equipment is in jeopardy. It's important for lawmakers to understand just how critical this equipment is to preserve and enhance health and independence. ADA requirements may be loosened... certainly issues for everyone to be monitoring.

How to get up to speed? One website to get an overview of the issues is that of the [National Coalition for Assistive](#)

[and Rehab Technology](#).

It's all about educating those for whom disability issues are a foreign language about the importance of these issues to the disability community. Ride Designs team members

were among those who went to Capitol Hill in late April to advocate for complex rehab technology. Recently, we hosted Colorado Senator Michael Bennet at our facility for Small Business Week. The Senator, shown here discussing wheelchair seating with veteran Andrew Kinard, seems open to learning more about both our products and the issues they are meant to resolve.

You don't need to travel to Washington to be involved...

An interesting [podcast](#) with panelists speaking about their advocacy efforts has been posted online by United on Wheels.

The Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, which focuses on spinal cord injury advocacy, urges "Lend your voice to our [initiatives](#) and you can make a real difference for people living with paralysis, as well as their families and caregivers."

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## Fun Finds / Resources

### Models of Resilience...

Along with their incredible beauty, strength, and resilience, trees sometimes serve as a metaphor for our lives -- very cool images, [here](#).

As an accompaniment, some shady reading: "The Secret Life of Trees" is about the astonishing science of what trees feel and how they communicate. Learn more [here](#).

And for an amazing object lesson on how little actions yield big results over time, [watch](#) this animated Academy Award winning short film, "The Man Who Planted Trees." A thoughtful and beautifully crafted allegorical story, its message is timeless and worth watching (~30 minutes).



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Thanks for reading!  
Your friends at Ride Designs

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