

Low-Cost Wheel Chair

Abstract

A low-cost wheelchair has been developed for use in third world countries. The need for a wheelchair which is not only inexpensive but will function properly is a real demand in countries without standardized healthcare. This new wheelchair is easy to manufacture and assemble, and rugged enough to support up to a 250 lbs load. The main aim of this project was to create a wheelchair which costs so little, it can be sold profitably for under \$20, making the decision to help a population in need much easier. A great deal of the utility of this design comes from the fact the bearings are recycled from roller-skates, saving much of the cost of manufacturing, and the chair can be manufactured from low-cost plastics.

For further information, please contact Professor Sridhar Kota at kota@umich.edu