

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2026

### **Merits Restarts Motivation Wheelchair Production, Restoring Access for Global Mobility Programs**

**FORT MYERS, FL & Taichung City, Taiwan — March 2026** — Merits Health Products has announced the restart of production and global distribution of the **Motivation wheelchair product range**, restoring access to mobility solutions relied upon by rehabilitation providers, humanitarian organizations, and adaptive sports programs around the world.

For more than three decades, Motivation Charitable Trust has played a leading role in advancing appropriate wheelchair provision for people living in low-resource regions. The organization helped shape global best practices by consulting with the World Health Organization (WHO) on wheelchair provision guidelines, designing durable wheelchairs capable of navigating rough terrain, and developing entry-level sports wheelchairs that expand access to adaptive athletics.

Motivation’s products and training programs have become widely used by rehabilitation services, humanitarian organizations, and sports federations across Africa, Asia, and other regions where access to appropriate wheelchairs remains limited.

Over the past decade, Motivation intentionally decentralized its operations, shifting resources and leadership closer to the communities it serves. Regional teams in Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, India, and neighboring countries now lead much of the work in areas where access to appropriate wheelchairs can be as low as 10 percent.

However, increasing financial pressures, including reductions in international aid funding and challenging fundraising conditions—led to the closure of Motivation’s UK operations in late 2025. While Motivation’s programs in Africa and Asia continue, the closure halted production and supply of the organization’s wheelchairs, seating systems, trikes, sports equipment, and replacement parts used by aid organizations and rehabilitation providers worldwide.

#### **Merits Steps In to Continue Production**

In March 2026, Merits Health Products—Motivation’s exclusive manufacturing partner for the past 25 years—reached an agreement to resume production and ensure continued global access to the product line.

“It’s a natural fit for Merits,” said **Jonathan Cheng**, President of Merits Health Products Co., LTD. “Our ambition is always to create best-in-class products with optimal functionality for

the people who rely on them and the services that support them. The Motivation brand aligns perfectly with that mission.”

Cheng noted that the products play an essential role in expanding mobility access in underserved regions.

“For many of the world’s poorest communities, this range represents the starting point for mobility, education, employment, and opportunity. We’re honored to help ensure these products remain available. Beyond production, Merits is committed to supporting Motivation’s ongoing work in Africa and Asia to help build the systems and services that make mobility a right rather than an act of charity.

### **The Global Need for Mobility Access**

According to the World Health Organization, an estimated **65 million people worldwide require an appropriate wheelchair**, yet in some regions only **one in ten people who need one have access**. Assistive technology, including wheelchairs, hearing aids, prosthetics, and vision aids—plays a critical role in enabling independence, education, employment, and community participation.

“Hope is back on wheels,” said **Mahesh Chandrasekar**, Director of Motivation India. “With the resumption of Motivation wheelchair supply through Merits, children and adults with disabilities can once again access customized wheelchairs designed for their needs. The right wheelchair is not just equipment, it’s independence, participation, and possibility.”

**Clare Childs**, Motivation Sales Manager, added:

“We’re delighted that these essential products for independence are available again through Merits. Having always been manufactured by Merits, it truly feels like their natural home. We know the impact these products have in the hands of dedicated services and facilitators, and it’s wonderful to see support for both existing and new products return.”

### **Production Restart and Industry Showcase**

Merits has already resumed production of many models in the Motivation product range. Some models will be showcased at the upcoming **Naidex** exhibition at the NEC Birmingham in the United Kingdom on March 25–26.

### **A Shared Commitment to Independence**

This year also marks **40 years of innovation for Merits**, which continues its mission of enabling independence through high-quality mobility and daily living solutions. With manufacturing operations in Taiwan, China, the United States, and Romania—and a new

assembly and distribution hub in the United Kingdom—the Motivation range joins Merits' expanding portfolio of mobility, seating, pressure care, stairlift, and daily living solutions.

Together, Merits and Motivation are ensuring that access to mobility continues—because independence should never be out of reach.

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### **About Merits Health Products**

Merits Health Products is a global manufacturer of mobility and assistive technology solutions with U.S. headquarters in **Fort Myers, Florida**, and global headquarters in **Taichung City, Taiwan**. For nearly four decades, Merits has designed and manufactured high-quality mobility products—including power wheelchairs, scooters, seating systems, stairlifts, and daily living aids—serving healthcare providers, mobility dealers, and rehabilitation professionals worldwide.

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