



**HLS Healthcare**

3/56 Norcal Road, Nunawading VIC 3131

ABN 21 773 032 945

To: Coroners Court of Victoria  
Court ref: COR 2013 001952  
Topic: Investigation into the death of Moira A McCarthy  
Submission Date: 09 August 2017

### **Response to Coroners Recommendation by HLS Healthcare**

#### **Coroners Recommendation (clause #67).**

The following coroner's recommendation appeared in the document *Finding Into Death Without Inquest*, Court ref. COR 2013 001952:

*I make a recommendation to HLS Healthcare, the Victorian supplier and distributor of the Guldmann GH2F Ceiling Hoist, to notify the manufacturer in relation to a possible design review of existing safety features within the ceiling hoist product range in light of the circumstances of Mrs McCarthy's death.*

#### **HLS Healthcare Statement of Action.**

HLS has implemented the action/recommendation (clause #67) detailed above after receipt of the coroner's finding.

HLS notified the manufacturer, V. Guldmann A/S of Denmark, via email on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017 as follows:

*Attached to this email is a copy of the "Finding into Death Without Inquest" report produced by the Coroners Court of Victoria. This document contains the investigation and findings into the death of Moira McCarthy following an incident at Vasey RSL Care, East Brighton, Victoria Australia.*

*As discussed, the report includes recommendations pertaining HLS Healthcare notifying the manufacturer. The recommendation appears on page 13 of the report as follows: I (the Coroner) make a recommendation to HLS Healthcare, the Victorian supplier and distributor of the Guldmann GH2F Ceiling Hoist, to notify the manufacturer in relation to a possible design review of existing safety features within their ceiling hoist product range in light of the circumstances of Mrs McCarthy's death.*

*As the manufacturer, could you please perform a design review of existing safety features within your ceiling hoist product range?*

HLS received a response from the manufacturer, V. Guldmann A/S of Denmark, via email on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 as follows:

*We confirm the receipt of the investigation report related to the unfortunate incident at Vasey RSL Care.*

*GH2 F*

*It is stated in the report that beep sounds are heard, where after the hoist is released from the rail.*



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*This sequence can only be done when there is no load on the hoist which means without a person on the hoist. Safety: In order to get the hoist in installation mode a switch at the bottom of the hand control must be activated. (deliberate action)*

*When the hoist is in installation mode and the bottom on the hand control is activated, the hoist will start raising. When raising the hoist detects whether there is any load on the lifting strap (person on the hoist) and if load on the lifting strap is detected, the hoist will stop the intended sequence, which means that the hoist can not perform the intended deinstallation. If there is no load on the lifting strap (no person on the hoist), the hoist will deinstall from the rail and go down. During this sequence there will be a beep sound.*

*In the actual case, where beep sound is heard, the hoist can not be loaded when deinstalling from the rail. We have never had a situation where a hoist could deinstall from the rail with load (person on the hoist).*

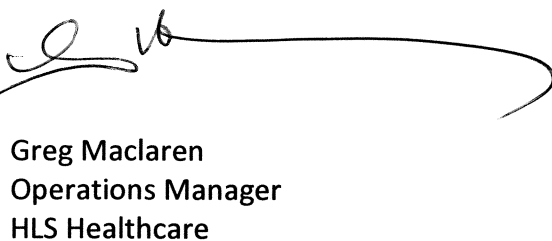
End of Statement of Action.

Extraordinary Note.

Clause #33 of the coroner's report *Finding Into Death Without Inquest*, Court ref. COR 2013 001952 stated the following:

*On 25 July 2013, Vasey RSL Care reportedly informed the installer of the equipment of the incident and reportedly asked for feedback and comments. Vasey RSL Care reported no response had been received at the date of the Vasey RSL report in writing on 28 August 2013.*

HLS Healthcare, the installer of the equipment, would like to make it a matter of public record that this statement is not an accurate reflection of events. HLS Healthcare did respond to the feedback-comment communicate with a request for additional information. HLS Healthcare's email confirming our request for additional information was sent on 16 August 2013. HLS Healthcare required additional information in order to accurately respond to the initial communicate. Vasey RSL Care did not respond to the request for additional information and no response has been received at the time of this document.



Greg Maclaren  
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HLS Healthcare