

# Bedding down for a superior care environment

wissner-bosserhoff is a leading supplier of innovative, high-quality bed and furnishing solutions for care homes. Here, UK marketing manager Nicola Osborne explains why its Hotel-Design Sentida range of beds is fast becoming a popular choice of bed for care providers

Our home is the place where we feel safe and secure, making it difficult for many people having to consider leaving theirs to move to a care home. In turn, the challenge care providers face in offering potential residents the right setting is greater than ever before.

"Today's customer is uncompromising in their demand for quality and the bar for care homes in the 21st century is set very high," says Kingsley Healthcare chief investment officer Muj Malik.

"Nothing is more important in a care home than the resident's bedroom - it is their personal space and they want the comfort and elegance they would have been used to at home. At the very heart of this is the quality of the bed itself, which must be supremely comfortable and look like the style of bed you would have in your own home, not a hospital," he added.

wissner-bosserhoff has been working with Kingsley Healthcare to offer a solution to these needs with its Hotel-Design Sentida range of beds.

The Hotel-Design Sentida range is fast becoming a popular choice of bed for care providers. They not only offer exceptional nursing functions - such as a four-part profiling mattress platform and one-touch chair positioning for a more dignified eating and drinking experience - but they also have a full spectrum of textiles and decors to choose from.

In fact, even the standard version

offers a choice of over 5,000 equipment variants and enables numerous attractive living concepts that stand for an active healing environment. Other innovative solutions such as the unique three-stop strategy and the patented SafeFree side guard concept reduce falls and sets standards in terms of safety, mobility, height adjustability and comfort.

"We are delighted with the quality of the beds supplied by wissner-bosserhoff," says Sheena Croston, a care home manager from Brackley.

"As a nurse, I can appreciate the therapeutic qualities of a truly comfortable bed and, as the manager of a luxury care home reaching out to the most discerning of clientele, I can appreciate the style of the beds which complement our interior design."

Another positive outcome from investment in high-performing and tailored bed designs is the enhancement of the environment and what that means to members of care home staff. To arrive at work every day and see beds that enhance resident mobility and are aesthetically pleasing - and deliver superior comfort - can only lift the spirits and help team members feel they are part of a special care environment.

As a result, there is often less staff



turnover, a more consistent workforce and fewer agency costs. In turn, staff knowledge of individual residents' needs grow, which creates a positive cycle of care as staff morale is high.

Effective staff retention reduces the time and effort required to find the right people and - having an environment that clearly demonstrates strong commitment to residents and staff alike - enhances a care home's reputation to prospective residents and the relevant authorities.

## Ageing in place

Ageing in place is a term being used more frequently to describe the changing needs of a resident throughout their time in a care home and must be considered early on in the journey.

Pressure injuries and falls pose one of the greatest threats to the physical health as well as the psychological well-being of residents in nursing homes and



homes for the elderly. Injuries caused by falls cost health insurers billions every year. However, falls can have far more drastic consequences for those affected. Some may never fully recover from their injuries, leaving them dependent on assistive devices for the rest of their lives. Therefore, having a bed that can also be adapted to suit individualised care needs is ever more desirable.

wissner-bosserhoff recently supplied beds to Nyton House care home in Chichester, West Sussex. The beds have been used to furnish the Coach House wing of the facility, a newly-created area that primarily houses residents with dementia. Therefore, particular emphasis was placed on the safety of the residents and guaranteeing them the greatest possible degree of independence.

The proven SafeFree side rail system and the SafeSense bed exit system with integrated night light were decisive purchase criteria for Nyton House, which already uses wissner-bosserhoff upholstered hotel design nursing beds in other areas of the home.

"wissner-bosserhoff convinced us with their whole range of care beds, specifically targeted at residential care beds for people with dementia. This enables us to make living safer, more independent and more empowering for our residents," says Nyton House director Harvey Hillary

SafeSense 3 by wissner-bosserhoff is an integrated real-time movement monitoring device, which can detect dangers at an early stage and corresponding warning messages can be recorded silently if preferred or forwarded as an active DECT (digital enhanced cordless telecommunication) call.

If forwarded, staff are notified of a resident's lack of movement in bed, enabling them to quickly identify and respond to pressure injury risks. The recorded 24-hour movement profile



also provides a good database for further anamnesis.

The bed exit monitoring provides nursing staff with an overview of bed occupancy at all times and an individualised bed exit message can be set for residents depending on the care requirements. This technology can significantly change the way care is prioritized and provide effective relief to night and weekend teams, especially when short staffed.

SafeSense 3 can also be optionally equipped with a moisture assistant. If there is moisture in the bed, a silent alarm is transmitted to the monitoring system and, if necessary, a call can also be transmitted to the call system available in the home. The moisture assistant detects moisture in the bed at an early stage and helps to better protect residents from maceration and pressure injuries.

wissner-bosserhoff's SafeSense 3 is compatible with current operating systems such as Windows, Android and iOS and the functionalities can be flexibly expanded to offer a future-proof solution.

### Serving up good maintenance

The ability to age in place is not only beneficial to the resident but also cost-effective for the care provider and environmentally friendly. Couple all the above advantages with a comprehensive

service and maintenance plan, and the average life cycle of a wissner-bosserhoff product is circa 15 years. Compared to beds and mattresses that cannot be serviced, cleaned and decontaminated properly - and/or adapted - the longevity of wissner-bosserhoff's bed can be up to three times longer.

As we know, the basic precondition for a medical bed or mattress to fulfil its function safely and effectively does not depend solely on manufactured quality, but also on its regular care and maintenance.

In addition to regular maintenance, wissner-bosserhoff offers a quality service agreement whereby they assume liability for the professional inspection and maintenance of the safe function of beds and mattresses. A great benefit of this are the lower costs associated with compulsory inspections or quick intervention in post-warranty repairs.

"wissner-bosserhoff has been a fantastic choice for us to work with! They were able to provide us with the best equipment in the market and deliver them on time. This is a fantastic team to work with, they are reliable, professional and friendly to accommodate requests and adaptation as required," says Nightingale Hammerson head of therapy Luigi Di Mauro.

"We are very satisfied with the service and surely our partnership will continue servicing equipment and ordering new when required," he adds.



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