



# *Information Sharing with* Committee for a Study on the Feasibility of Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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## Considerations

- Regulatory Requirements
  - Mandatory
  - Apply to All Occupants and Configurations
- Airline Operations
  - Space and Time Management
    - Retrofit Activity
    - Daily Operations
- Aircraft Design
  - Reflects Balancing of Regulatory and Operational Considerations
- Dealing with Variability
  - Aircraft Design
  - Wheelchair Design
  - Operations

# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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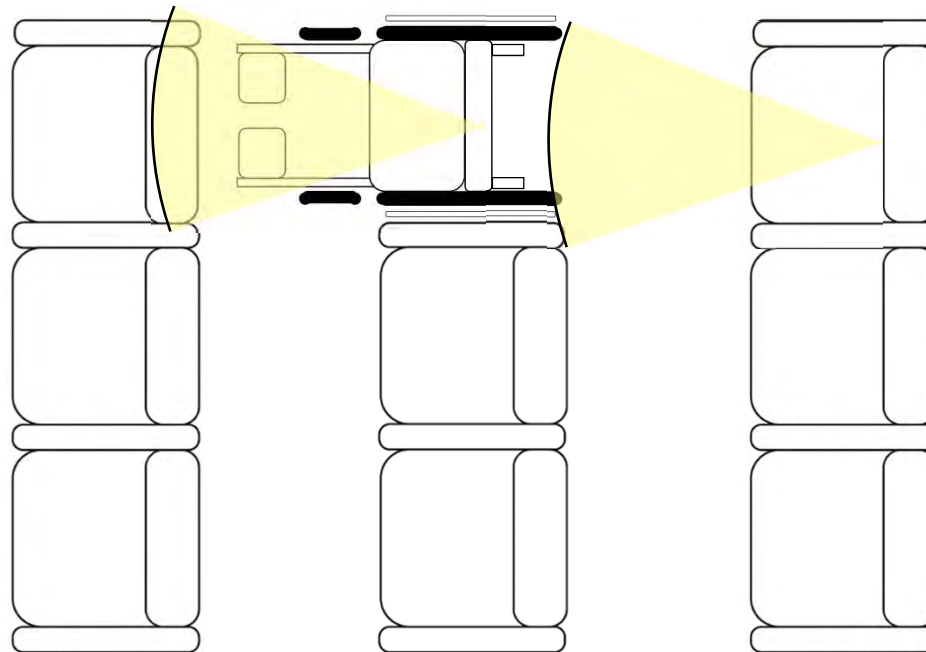
## Considerations – Examples

# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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## Considerations – Cabin Safety, Usability and Certification

- Injury Protection for All Occupants
  - Emergency Landing Events
    - Protecting Wheelchair Occupant and Other Passengers
    - Determining Wheelchair “Best Location” in Cabin



**Seat Layout with Wheelchair Installed**  
(Notional Only)

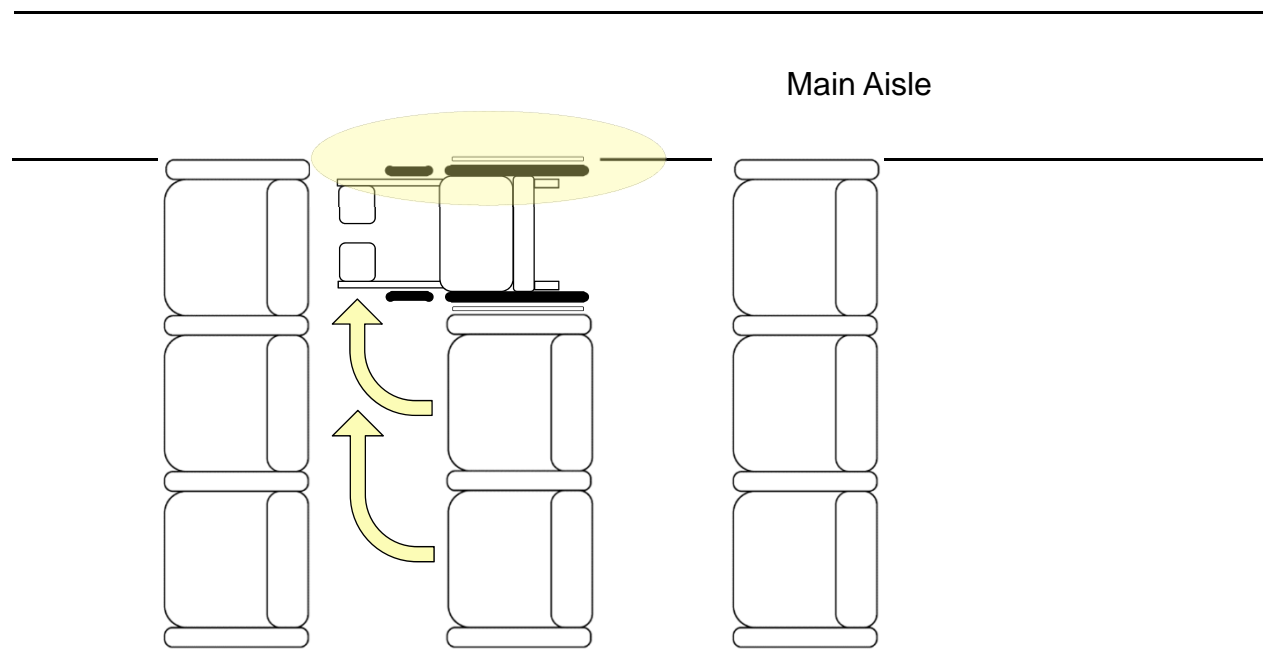
# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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## Considerations – Cabin Safety, Usability and Certification

### – Aircraft Evacuation

- Aisles - Lighting, Handholds, Trip Hazards, Deformation
- Passageways for Adjacent Seats
- Evacuation Procedures, Passenger Briefings



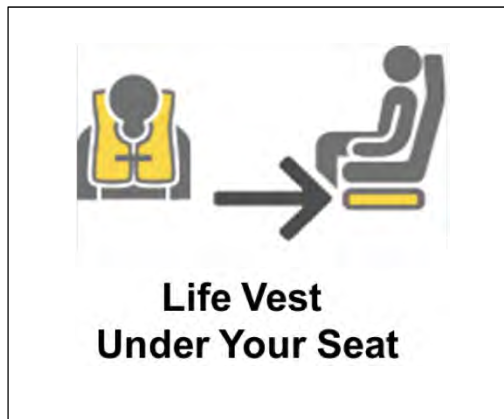
**Seat Layout with Wheelchair Installed**  
(Notional Only)

# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

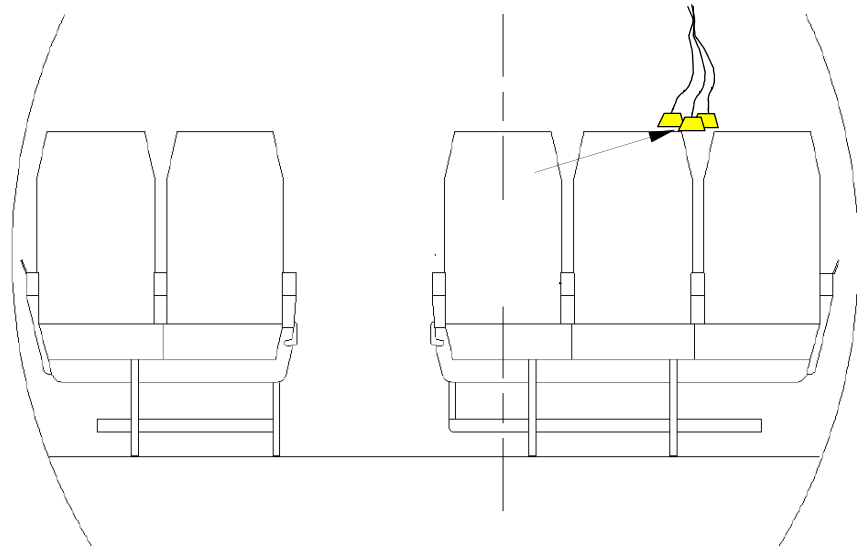
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## Considerations – Cabin Safety, Usability and Certification

- Access and Visibility
  - Life Vests, Oxygen Masks, Information Signs
  - Attendant Call, Reading Light, In-Seat Power, In-Flight Entertainment



**Life Vest Location**  
(Notional Only)



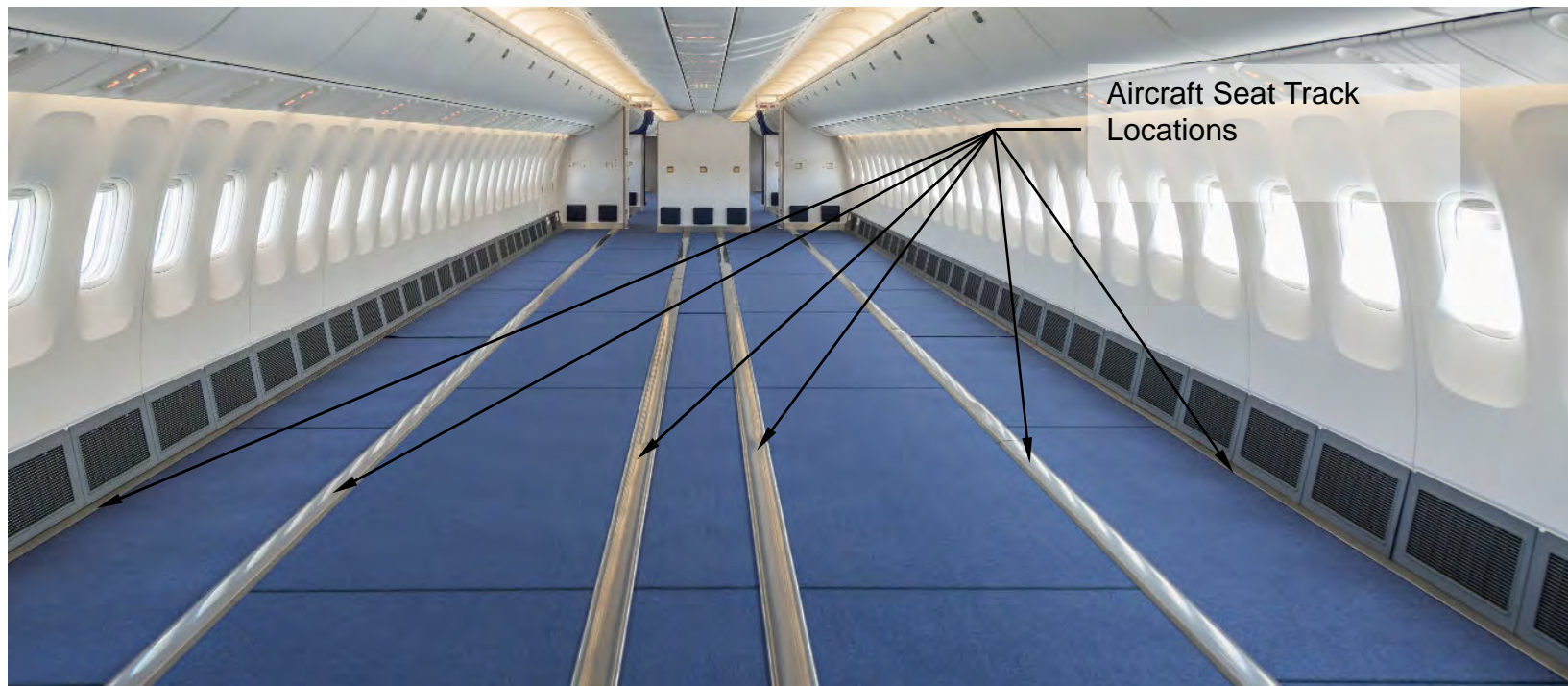
**Passenger Reach Distance and Access to Oxygen Masks**  
(Notional Only)

# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

## Considerations – Aircraft Design and Certification

### – Structural Configuration

- Structural Interface of Seat/Wheelchair to Aircraft – Seat Track



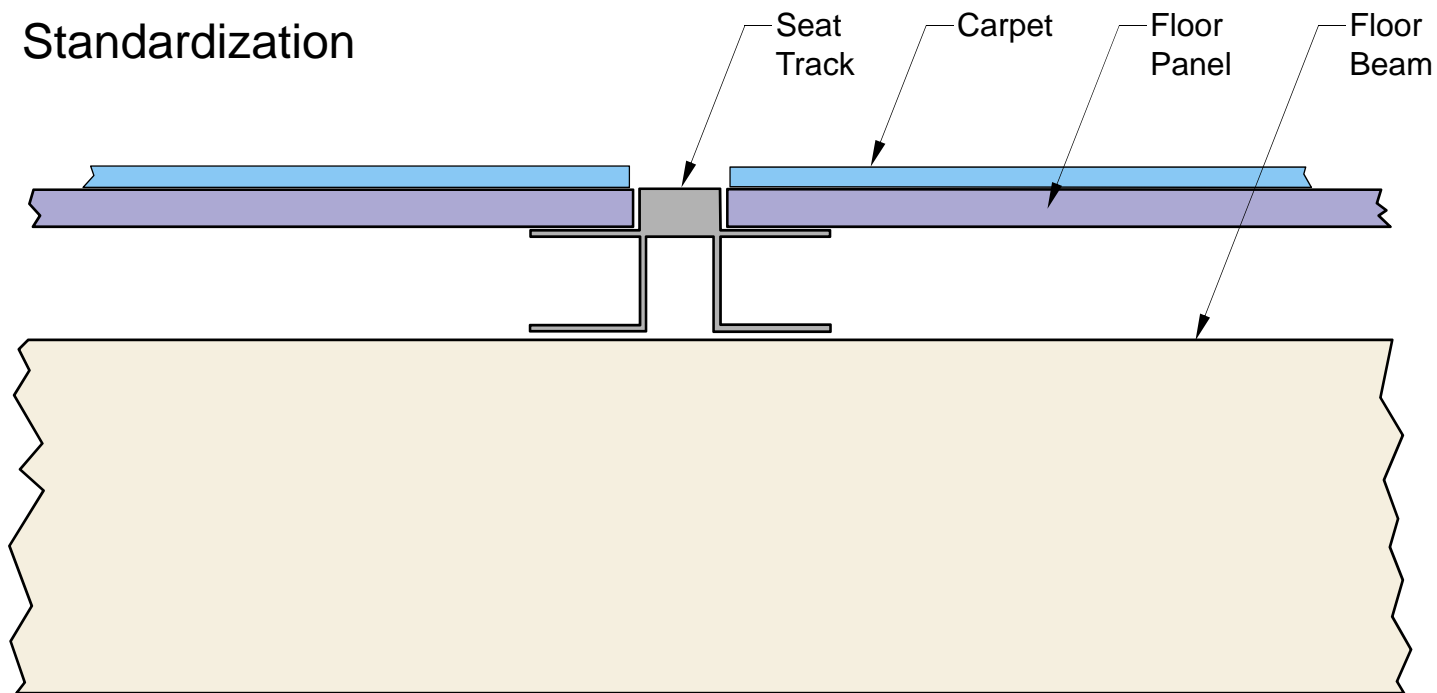
**Seat Track Locations in a Widebody Aircraft**  
(Notional Only)

# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

## Considerations – Aircraft Design and Certification

### – Structural Configuration

- Load Paths – Restraint System, Wheels
- Retrofit Modification
- Standardization



**Cross Section of Aircraft Floor Structure (Looking Fore/Aft)**  
(Notional Only)



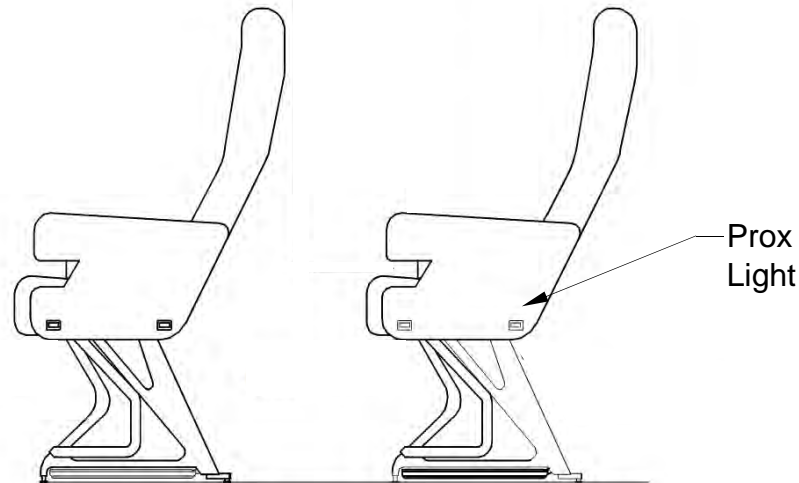
# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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## Considerations – Aircraft Design and Certification

### – Electrical Systems in Seats

- Emergency Escape Path Marking System i.e. “Prox Lights”
- Seat Power and Data Systems
  - Flight Attendant “Call” Functions
  - In-Flight Entertainment Systems
  - In-Seat Power



**Prox Lights on Aisle Seats Guide Passengers to the Aircraft Exits**  
(Notional Only)

# Wheelchair Restraint Systems in Passenger Aircraft

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## Considerations - Dealing with Variability

- Aircraft Variability
  - Structural Characteristics - Seat Track Spacing, Location, Design
  - Cabin Configuration – Seating Arrangement, Dividers, Partitions, Monuments
  - Systems – Electrical, Oxygen, Information
- Wheelchair Variability
  - Size, Shape and Weight
  - Turning Radius
  - Strength, Deflection, Deformation, Energy Absorption
- Operational Variability
  - Aircraft Models and Configurations
  - Aircraft Allocation Changes – “Swaps”
  - Non-Direct Flights: End-to-End Support

