



Not Just The Stairclimber People – Case Study

Peter's flying high thanks to his cushion....

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Despite living with spinal muscular atrophy and scoliosis, young Peter Spagnolo isn't letting it stop him living life.

Thanks to an innovative cushion, they can even comfortably travel to Italy for a holiday.

The cushion in question is one of AAT's vacuum posture cushions- the Comfortable Plus Duo- one of few approved by British Airways for use in flight.

Vacuum technology means the cushion holds its form and firmness once moulded yet is easy to re-shape if required: perfect stability and adaptability.

Peter's father Daniel shapes and fixes the cushion to the contours of the seat and Peter's back to perfectly support him in the aircraft cabin, on his own seat, for the duration of the flight.

The Comfortable Plus Duo cushion supports Peter's whole body from head to pelvis.

As the five year-old is peg fed and ideally needs to be lying down for feeding, the cushion's generous size and integral lateral wings meant it was able to double up as a safe and comfortable feeding mat too!



"Peter can't support himself for too long. When we booked the holiday we thought he could sit on our laps for the flight but discovered for safety he would have to sit on his own seat for take-off and landing," explained Daniel.

"We have an AAT cushion- the Comfortable- at home on the recommendation of Peter's Occupational Therapist, to support Peter's back in his wheelchair so were familiar with how it all works. We can precisely mould it around his pronounced spinal bump to keep him supported and comfortable. But the design of aircraft seats presented a challenge: to be able to fly, we needed something that would also stabilise his head and pelvis. The larger Comfortable Plus Duo was perfect!"

Full details of AAT's range of vacuum posture cushions are here : <https://www.aatgb.com/posture-cushions/>.