



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Blue Dog Designs Improves Design, Enhances Walking Accessories and Adds Rehabilitation Attachments to the Popular Help 'Em Up® Harness**

*Enhanced conventional hip-lift, D-ring attachments and new walking loop handles create a sling use and added functionality*

Denver, Colo. -- Blue Dog Designs has made design and usability enhancements to its Help 'Em Up® Harness with modifications and additions to improve comfort and aid in rehabilitation. New D-ring connectors attached to the harness help aid in rehabilitation. And newly offered accessories include water tank connector straps that aid balance in underwater treadmills during hydrotherapy and loop handle walking accessories that provide more ways for dog owners to help their aging dogs stay active.

Design modifications to the conventional harness include larger handles on the rear hip-lift, reinforced stitching, and an elastic band to the connector strap, connecting the rear hip-lift to the front shoulder harness, providing more flexibility and comfort for dogs when they are sitting or lying down in the harness. The new conventional hip-lift combines the belly band and pelvic pad into one piece that is more ergonomically designed and sits farther back under the pelvic floor. The changes to the conventional hip-lift allow it to be used on more male dogs, as it provides clearance for urination.

"In an effort to create the very best lifting harness for dogs, we've continually updated the harness based on feedback from customers and veterinary professionals," said Cary Zimmerman, president of Blue Dog Designs and co-creator of the Help 'Em Up Harness. "The harness has become both a critical lifting device for veterinary technicians and canine rehabilitation professionals and a life-enhancing asset for owners of aging dogs and dogs with disabilities."

New D-rings have been added to the neck, chest and waist clips on the Help Em Up Harness that provide increased stability and balance using the harness with these devices and while walking. They are located at six different contact points at the neck, chest and hips, which allow for clip-on devices, such as strap connections for use in underwater treadmills, resistance bands for therapeutic exercises, and to connect the new loop handle walking accessories. Customers can also purchase separate connector clips to retrofit older harnesses.

The new loop handles are soft, flexible and versatile and help stabilize the front legs, hind quarters or whole body, depending on the animal's area of weakness. By attaching the loop handles to the harness, pet owners can help pets utilize the harness as a sling. The loop handles come in two sizes.

Other walking accessories include a walking handle and leash. Both are custom designed to work with the Help 'Em Up Harness to provide additional mobility assistance and extra leverage for owners of dogs using the Help 'Em Up Harness.

### **About Blue Dog Designs**

Started in 2008, Blue Dog Designs created the Help 'Em Up® Harness, the first full-body lifting harness system for dogs that can be worn for extended periods. The Help 'Em Up Harness is designed to distribute weight over the large surfaces of the chest and hind quarters. Ergonomically designed with soft comfortable padding and waterproof Neoprene, the harness has elevated handles for lifting and stabilizing and comes in five sizes to fit dogs from 8-220 pounds. The patented "Hip Lift" assists owners with aging or injured dogs to live a more active life. Originally developed for dogs whose hip dysplasia or muscle loss had decreased their mobility and physical strength for everyday functions, today the harness is widely used by veterinarians as a mobility device to assist dogs rehabilitating after surgery or recovering from injuries. Walking handles, leashes and now loops provide more ways for owners to help their pets stay active. For more information visit [www.helpemup.com](http://www.helpemup.com)



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