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**New ADA Laws Effective March 15, 2011  
Mandatory Compliance by January 31, 2013**

You may have heard of the new ADA compliance standards regarding swimming pools, wading pools, spas, and fitness facilities. With the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design; which were adopted by the Department of Justice on September 15, 2010 as part of the revised Regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") changes to your facility may be necessary. Compliance with the 2010 Standards become mandatory for certain properties and certain elements of all properties as of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

**Is your pool, spa and fitness facility compliant with ADA Regulations?**

Enclosed is a sheet of commonly asked questions and brief description regarding the new ADA compliance regulations. Please read through it to see if your pool is going to be affected by the new regulations. If you have additional questions there are a number of websites listed including the official ADA website that detail out the changes. Many, but not all swimming pools are being affected by these changes.

Please feel free to contact Platinum Pool Service to answer any ADA compliance questions you have. We can help you bring your facility into compliance and make it easier for everyone to safely enjoy your swimming pool!

Sincerely,

Chad Sarver



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## Answers to most commonly asked ADA questions:

**Q: Does my pool need a pool lift?**

A: Any commercial pool under 300 linear feet must have a sloped entry or **pool lift**. Any commercial pool 300 linear feet or more need two forms of access, one of which must be a **pool lift** or sloped entry.

**Q: What is a commercial pool?**

A: Any pool that falls under Title II of the ADA, (Public entities, such as Municipal Pools or Association Pools that allow non-members access to the pool), or Title III of the ADA, (Places of public accommodation, such as a hotel or fitness center pool).

**Q: Does my spa, wave action pool, leisure river, wading pool or sand bottom pool need a pool lift?**

A: Yes. They all need one access point. A wading pool must have a sloped entry. A spa must have a **pool lift**, transfer wall or transfer system.

**Q: I have multiple pools do they all need an access point?**

A: If your pools serve different purposes such as a lap pool, spa and a leisure pool then each requires a form of access. If they are in close proximity a portable lift may be able to serve multiple bodies of water.

**Q: How do I know if my pool lift is ADA compliant?**

A: Some basic items to check your lift include:

- 1) Lifting capacity of at least 300 lbs
- 2) A footrest must accompany the seat into the water (exception: for spas)
  - A rigid seat is advised but not required
- 3) A manually cranked or manually rotated lift is NOT ADA compliant.
  - In order to be ADA compliant the patron must be able to operate the lift without assistance.

## Additional ADA resources:

Accessibility Development Associates, Inc.: [www.adaconsults.com](http://www.adaconsults.com)

The Access Board: [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov)

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