By Scott Shearer and Steve Ware

They say “necessity is the mother of invention” and that “form follows function.” I experienced this first hand after recovering from a catastrophic car wreck that broke my back in three places late in June of 2000. I returned home and began adapting to life using an ultra-lite wheelchair. One day while home alone, I encountered a potentially threatening situation: a stranger at the door trying to get in! I immediately discovered there was no time to strap a belt or crossdraw rig on. Retrieving my pistol from the dresser was just the start of the complications. I had to use my hands to move the chair. So now what? Set the pistol in my lap, try to maneuver to defend myself and it falls off my lap? Not good! Fortunately, my dog scared the stranger off before I had to confront him. Thus, my quest to effectively carry a handgun and defend myself started, and Scotworks, LLC was formed.

Through trial and error and experimentation, I’ve developed an adaptive holster mount that’s more than capable of being used for everything from home defense, CCW, hunting and, yes, competition. The adapter is designed not to interfere with the daily use and functionality of a chair (transferring in and out of the chair, etc.). The first 1” version of the Holster Adapter was offered for sale on our website (www.scotworkslc.com) in early 2009 and a 1-1/4” Adapter as well as the CCW cover followed.

It was the answer to a common problem: safely carrying and controlling a firearm from a wheelchair. This puts the firearm right where I need it: with me at all times. In bed, in the shower, on the couch, etc., the chair and pistol are right there. I just transfer into the chair and I’m ready to defend myself to the best of my ability! Our Holster Adapter can be moved from one rigid chair to another, and doesn’t bolt or clamp to the chair. You mount your holster to the bracket, snap it onto your frame and then secure it with safety straps, and you’re good to go!

Shortly before going public with the Holster Adapter in 2009, I decided that before I sell them, I’d better put them through their paces in competition! After learning of an upcoming local USPSA match, I decided to see if I would be able to negotiate the courses of fire. I drove over the day before and met the match director, Eric Hill. After looking over the five stages, Eric stated, “If you find any doorways, etc., that you can’t fit through, let me know. I’ll bring my chainsaw in the morning and modify them!” Needless to say, I showed, I shot, and I’m hooked! Thanks, Eric.