



PARA-GRAM # 49

IMPORTANT TECHNICAL INFORMATION
ABOUT PARAGON SWIMMING POOL EQUIPMENT

RE: Don't Let the ADA Hand and Grab Rail Guidelines Panic You
(AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) GUIDELINES - HANDRAIL DIAMETERS)

We have recently received inquiries about whether Paragon Aquatics' 1.90-inch Outside Diameter (OD) swimming pool handrails and grab rails comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Guidelines. Be assured that they do. This can be readily confirmed on their website @ www.access-board.gov/adaag/about/faq.htm under Section 4.26. It is important to note their definition is in terms of Common Iron Pipe Size (IPS), which is dimensioned by Inside Diameter (ID). Therefore an IPS diameter range of 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 inches yields an outside diameter range of 1.66 to 1.90-inches.

Although Paragon Aquatics manufactures most of its rail goods from 1.90-inch OD stainless steel ornamental tubing, we can accommodate 1.50-inch OD needs, as well as many other sizes and grades, and welcome the opportunity to do so. However, please understand that the strength per cross sectional area of smaller tube is significantly less than that of tube having an outside diameter of 1.90-inches. For example, 1.90-inch OD tube renders up to 70% greater strength than 1.50-inch of the same gauge. Specifically, to equal the equivalent strength and load bearing characteristics of 1.90-inch OD X 0.065-inch wall thickness, the 1.50-inch O.D tube would require a wall thickness of 0.120-inch, which will increase the material cost.

So just keep doing what you are and have been doing, 1.90-inch OD is still and always has been acceptable. As a matter of fact it's the best choice.

I hope that this helps in clarifying this matter. However, if you have any unanswered questions or require additional clarification, please let us know.

Paragon Aquatics