



## Bed revolution

The ever-new solutions offered by Project 2000 for front folding and rear lift-up beds lead to a reconfiguration of the interior layouts of traditional vehicle types creating a new "space on demand" concept.

Words Andrea Cattaneo

**Y**ou need only glance at the bed system catalogue to realise how many new products have been launched by Project 2000 in recent years, new systems able to revolutionise the interior space of motorhomes and thus, all things considered, revolutionise the RV market.

"It was 2009 when we began to develop the first ceiling-mounted up-and-down beds," explains Davide Nardini, founder and general manager of Project 2000, "and since then we've continued to perfect the product and offer ever-new solutions, often customised, made to measure for the client. Today there are more than 70,000 beds in circulation with Project 2000 motion systems."

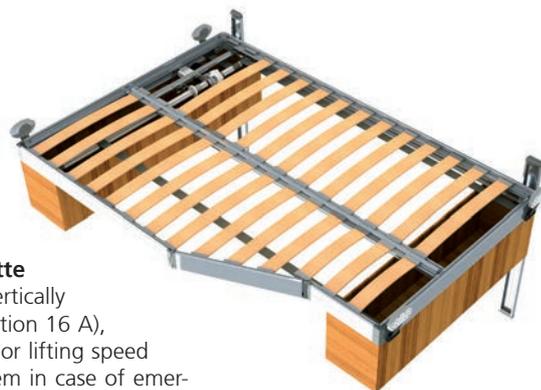
Project 2000 is an exemplary case, successfully channelling its creativity and drive in the right direction to pass from entrepreneurial craftsmanship to a wide-ranging project, with industrial-scale production. The really winning idea was moving beyond the traditional pantograph systems

of folding beds, thanks to a system of belts driven by a motor concealed in the structure of the bed. A system which is used both for the front and rear beds, to enhance the use of space within the passenger compartment and at the same time decrease the weight of the structure.

"Our R&D department is always at work," explains Ursula Scalia, head of sales at Project 2000. "Each year there are significant new developments: a few months ago, for example, we started producing the new up-and-down bunk bed. We now have a very extensive bed systems catalogue: we have beds suited to low-profiles, motorhomes, campervans and even caravans, beds that can be installed in the front or rear section of the passenger compartment, to create various types of environment. But what we have in the catalogue certainly doesn't represent all of the solutions conceived and designed over the years; in reality there's a whole lot more on offer, and OEMs see proof of this every time they ask us to develop an idea or customise a product."

### Devices to adjust the height of the bed

**T**he efficient belt system is exploited in various ways, both to move the front folding mechanism and to vary the height of the rear bed above the garage. It can lift an entire 60 kg bed (can be increased), while the maximum static capacity with bed lowered is 400 kg. The **Smart Tilt-Top** version has been designed specifically for motorhomes, the vehicles with integral chassis which fit the bed at the front of the cab. This bed doesn't only lower vertically, but while lowering moves forwards, detaching from the windscreen and shifting towards the centre of the passenger compartment, for greater functionality. Once closed into the ceiling, it leaves a lot of space free for storage compartments. Ideal for low-profiles, on the other hand, is the **Top Dinette** version: the bed, normally imperceptible since it's housed against the ceiling, lowers vertically when needed, positioning itself above the lounge. Driven by an electric motor (absorption 16 A), the two systems feature a very powerful gearbox, with built-in encoder. The lowering or lifting speed is approximately 6 cm/s. Featuring limitless travel, they have a manual operation system in case of emergency. They are available with ACS motion management system, which incorporates the limit switches and has no external switches, with an aesthetic advantage. Its stopping points can be set extremely quickly, and changed in accordance with the requirements of the client.



## Expandable beds



Perfect for passenger compartments of limited dimensions, like those in campervans, the systems with extending base optimise space and allow a folding bed to be inserted where it would have been unthinkable. The **Smart Extension** version, for beds positioned lengthwise in relation to driving direction, is equipped with an automatic system for extending the slats on the short sides, both at the front and at the back. The base extends on the long side (up to 80% of its width), on the other hand, in the **Two in One** system, which in addition to the vertical up/down motion can offer tilted closing to the ceiling.

## Folding beds

Lengthwise-type descending bed **Top Ceiling** motion system with "knee"-style folding. The bed support base is jointed, so as to adapt to the curve of the ceiling and reduce the space taken up. Pressing the lowering button detaches the bed from the ceiling and lowers it: stopping at the first stop point, it locks and the two sections are positioned horizontally. Afterwards, the bed can be lowered further, to the desired level. Since it doesn't take up the whole width of the vehicle, but only a central strip, the lengthwise bed permits side wall cabinets (rather than wall units attached to the underside of the bed). Precisely because of the absence of cabinets underneath, the bed can lower further, and become more accessible.



## Twin beds

The electrical **Twin** device allows the ground clearance of the rear twin beds, and thus the height of the garage below, to be varied. The bases of the two beds can be raised separately, in order to access the storage compartment.



## Manual moving beds

A classic but still valid system, **Manual evo** for varying the height of the rear bed. It's crank-operated. The maximum travel is 40 cm and the bed can be stopped at the desired height. It can be combined with an electric actuator.



## Up-and-down bunk beds

The folding bunk bed allows the configuration of the rear area of the motorhome to be changed at will. The bed can be placed above a dinette or a storage space. In the first case there are three potential living solutions: with the two stowed beds (total thickness 30 cm approx.) raised up to the ceiling, the dinette can be fully exploited; with a single bed lowered to the halfway point, it's possible to use the dinette and a berth at the same time; with both beds lowered, the dinette can't be used but it sleeps two. The lower bed, with electric operation, can be considered active, while the upper bed is passive, driven by the rear one.



## Multifunctional island beds

Designed for rear peninsular beds, the **Sleep, Read and Store** system is truly complete and incorporates various functions. It features up-and-down motion for varying ground clearance (and thus the height of the garage below), but also a base sliding system that, retracting, frees up space in front of and around the bed. The headboard can be raised, allowing you to read and remain seated in bed. There's also the option of raising the front section of the base, to access the storage compartment. There's also a simplified version, called **Sleep and Read**, without the up-and-down motion but with the same lengthwise sliding (22 cm) and opening of the base to access the locker and adjust the headboard to five positions.

