

Coming Up! Safety Seat Checkup Week

This year Safety Seat Checkup Day will start the April 26th-May 2nd celebration of correct, consistent safety seat and belt use for children and their families. With sponsorship from California Office of Traffic Safety (CA OTS), Petersen Automotive Museum, Pomona Police Department, and Toyota Motor North America (TMNA), *SafetyBeltSafe* U.S.A. invites everyone concerned to proclaim Safety Seat Checkup Week to focus attention on the need for correctly choosing and using safety seats. In Los Angeles, Petersen Automotive Museum will host both the April 23rd Educator Workshop and Safety Seat Checkup Day on April 26th.

Let us know if you would like a sample proclamation to invite your city, county or state to lend support to protecting kids. Remember more than a third of the children killed in car crashes are totally unrestrained! Request the set of “No Excuses” posters, four different kids shown at potential risk. Check out the posters at www.carseat.org.

Do we still need this? Look at statistics from a recent checkup in San Fernando, California. Co-sponsored by San Fernando Police Department, the event was on a beautiful day with enthusiastic teams and volunteers on hand. On January 24, 2020, eight families in eight cars with 13 safety seats to be used for 13 children, one of whom was still unborn, attended the safety seat checkup. The need for the checkup is revealed by the error rate and the replacement of three safety seats to provide adequate protection for three of the children—a step we take only when it is essential.

Of the children, three were not present and one was unborn; nine came in safety seats to the event. The children involved were age 7 and under. All the safety seats had at least one error. In summary, there were four rear-facing-only seats, two each rear-facing and forward-facing convertibles, one each combination, 3-in-1, and 4-in-1, and two boosters for a total of 13. The range of errors per seat/child was from one to 10. Four of the seats were used which isn't always an issue; however, it indicates that understanding how one decides which used products are appropriate is key.

Of the seats, one each had one and 10 errors, two had two errors, and three each had four, five, or six errors. Three seats were donated to the families because the seats for the children could not be fixed. One, for instance, had a part cut off. The families came from two communities in the City of Los Angeles and three other cities (Lancaster, Pacoima, and San Fernando) in Los Angeles County. They were referred by the police station, San Fernando City Website, Instagram, and Facebook. Two more saw the site as they passed and stopped in.

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. provided oversight for the volunteers on the teams serving the families. The 13 team members volunteering were affiliated with four agencies (Baby Trend, Children's Hospital of Orange County, Olive View Medical Center, and The Whole Child) in addition to volunteers for *SafetyBeltSafe* U.S.A., including a private doula for newborns. Eleven of the checkers came from five different areas of Los Angeles County; one each came from Orange and San Diego Counties.

The families were given evaluation forms. Twelve of 13 recommended that a future safety seat checkup be scheduled. All were appreciative of the service received although one who came with multiple seats and children noted that this was a lengthy process!

Continued on pg. 3

Thank You

\$635: Car Seat Media LLC

\$500: Mary Louise Blackstone,
Esq.

Graco Children’s Products
Ari Krantz, Esq.

\$250: Paul Butler

\$200: Children’s Minnesota
Orlando Health/Arnold Palmer
Medical Center

Pomona Valley Hospital
Medical Center

Rady Children’s Hospital-
San Diego

Regions Hospital

Safe Ride News

Waterbury Police Dept.

Lithographix is donating
Safety Seat Checkup Week posters,
available free from SBS USA.

Calendar

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. Trainings and Events: Call 310/318-5111

At Petersen Automotive Museum:

***4/23: EDUCATOR WORKSHOP:** Los Angeles, CA, 8:15 am-5 pm.

Sponsored by CA OTS, Petersen Automotive Museum,
Pomona Police Department, TMNA

Six CEs for Nurses, courtesy of Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

Up to 3.5 CEUs for CPSTs.

Free, including the \$50 CPS Reference and Teaching Guide.

This is a good precursor to Certification Training; special
Treasure Hunt for CPSTs.

***4/26: SAFETY SEAT CHECKUP:** Los Angeles, CA

10 am-2 pm for families; 9 am-3 pm for checkers

***5/5-8: CPST Certification Training:** Carson Civic Center, Carson,

CA. Sponsors: CA OTS, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department,

Pomona Police Department. Site for 5/8 checkup to be announced.

Go to cert.safekids.org; \$95 fee to register. 19.5 CEs for nurses, courtesy
of Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

For CA Technicians/Instructors: Bimonthly Technical Webinars

Free. Next session, April 16, 2020, 10 am-11:30 am. 1 CEU.

CONFERENCES:

***6/17:** Advances in Child Injury Prevention, Plymouth, MI

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-acip-meeting-tickets-86938532491>

Special rates for students and non-profit employees.

***8/27-29:** 16th annual Kidz in Motion conference, Orlando FL

(www.kidzinmotion.org). Early bird registration rate ends May 1.

Freshly updated!

Child Restraint Manufacturers’
Instructions with Summaries,
for short CRMIS: 2010-2019

All 420 sets of instructions with
summary guide to each plus
instructions for 26 restraint systems
for children with special needs.

Available online or on USB.

Updates are available for members
at www.carseat.org.

CRMIS: 2010-2019 is included
in SBS USA memberships from
\$135 up or may be purchased
separately for \$25 per copy from
SBS USA.

Can you share?

SBS USA is interested in
arrangements at hospitals and
clinics where children with special
transportation needs are treated.
Does the facility provide casting
for kids with either congenital or
emergency conditions? Do they
treat kids who have issues with
prematurity or other conditions
making it difficult to use
conventional safety seats?

Which resources are available
to send these kids home safely?

Call 800/745-SAFE or send an
e-mail to tombrello@carseat.org.

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.

Office:

514 N. Prospect Ave., L-6,
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

(310) 318-5111 (also FAX)

(800)745-SAFE

(800)747-SANO

URL: www.carseat.org

Mail:

Box 553

Altadena, CA 91003

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Stephanie M. Tombrello,
LCSW, CPSTI

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Kellie L. Mzik, MA CL

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Marc Cohen CPSTI

Sean Kane, BA, Safety Research
and Strategies, Inc

Annette Knobloch, DNS, RN,
MPH

Corey Perreault, CPSTI

Jim Savage, Kohl’s Safety

Center, American Family
Children’s Hospital

You can help SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. save children's lives with your membership or donation.

GROUP SUBSCRIPTION:	\$500 Major Corp.	\$200 Hospital	\$100 Small Bus./Prof Grp	\$50 Community Org.
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:	\$100 Contributing	\$50 Supporting	\$35 Basic	
SPECIAL GIFT:	\$5,000 Benefactor	\$2,500 Patron	\$1,000 Sustaining	Other \$ _____

Name _____ Org/Occup _____
 Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____
 E-mail* _____ Phone: Cell () _____ Work () _____

I can help with _____

* E-mail address is required to receive passwords for access to Recall List and CPS Tech Update.

All memberships/subscriptions include *SafetyBeltSafe News*, which qualifies for 1 Continuing Education Unit per year for re-certifying Technicians and Instructors with subscriber code. \$200 or more includes *Safe Ride News*.

__ Check here if you are a Certified Technician or Instructor and want information about CEUs for subscribers.

Check below if you want to receive the following special subscriptions:

\$50 minimum: __ Recall Update Service by e-mail __ Recall Update Service by regular mail (if necessary)

\$100 minimum: __ CPS Tech Update (online access to new instructions since December, 2019)

For \$100 members: Add \$35 and receive Safe Ride News through 2020 & USB drive or online access to 10 years of instructions!

Payment: Check/Money Order (enclosed) _____

Credit Card (Visa / MC / Discover / Amex) # _____ Security Code (on front or back) _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____ Exp ____ / ____

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. is a 501(c)(3) corporation

Please mail this form to: *SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A., Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003*

Federal Tax ID #95-3676040

Kids at Risk: DUI

Most news stories about DUI and kids end in devastating tragedy as the majority of kids dying in impaired-driver crashes are riding with the DUI driver. However, Pomona Police Department officers managed to capture a DUI driver with a 1 year old aboard without the child being injured.

Apparently, the inebriated driver was under a restraining order but took the child and when police located the vehicle, after the child's mother called in the situation, they pulled back, sending a helicopter to keep an eye on the vehicle. The driver managed to run red lights and drive into three or four vehicles, and eventually was taken into custody.

It appears that there are groups in California, in addition to MADD, that want to make sure that more professionals and communities know about this sometimes-hard-to-understand risky behavior and consider ways to counteract it. We are working to make it a statewide focus.

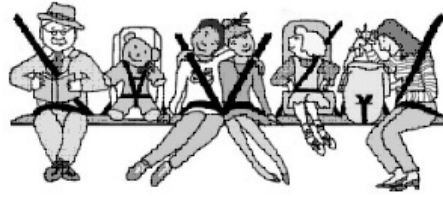
Coming up! *(Continued from pg. 1)*

As a bonus, a woman who stated she often tells friends to buckle up, stopped by and was given materials to support her personal outreach. During the stop, SBS USA discovered she had added a floor mat for the driver, which can impact vehicle control, and her older passenger was not wearing her belt just right. Both issues were addressed immediately and received with gratitude. In addition, a representative of a local child care agency dropped by for materials and to open up contact.

The checkup was associated with an Educator Workshop, co-sponsored with San Fernando Recreation Park, and was an opportunity to introduce newcomers to the field with supporting materials to enable them to provide education in the community. We also were able to update Technicians with the latest issues, such as fake seats, new products, and the Treasure Hunt, which raises awareness of the quirks of new seats on the market, reminding how important it is to read instructions. This underscores how useful the SBS USA Summaries are to guide Technicians to the key differences and updates as they apply to seats presented, whether new or a few years old.

Do we need to raise awareness of the massive issue of incorrect use? Yes, since a nationwide study of parents and caregivers showed that 80% believe that they are doing the best for the children in their care, and our checkups usually show at least 86% incorrect usage.

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
P.O. Box 553
Altadena, California 91003



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Los Angeles, CA
Permit No. 2112

Return Service Requested

*The “new year” isn’t so new anymore.
Have you renewed your membership?*

SafetyBeltSafe News

March 2020

Technician Corner

Notes from CPS 201, by Erin Brill, CPSTI

Many aspects of child passenger safety (cps) may be missed; having ideas of areas that may require diverse responses, based on brands and individual seats, can help to avoid missing important features. We promised brief mentions of these points. Because absorbing crash forces equally on shoulders and hips is a general aspect of restraint use, reclining a seat forward facing hasn’t been recommended.

However, in their pre-ClickTight models, Britax Frontier/Frontier 85 has a recline block which needs to be in the forward position in harness mode and in rear position for booster use. Chicco NextFit and MyFit have separate angle indicators for rear-facing and forward directions and for harness and booster use respectively. Diono requires the recline foot of their seats to be extended for children over 25 lbs. The Dorel Maxi-Cosi Pria 70 indicates position 2 for kids 22-40 lbs. and position 1 for those 40-70 lbs., and lists height ranges as well. For several convertibles, Graco lists specific required recline angles for children under 40 lbs. facing forward. Nuna simply provides five “blue” angles for rear facing, five “red” angles for forward facing. The choice is made before installation.

Another rule, no longer 100% true, is that having an inch of plastic shell above the child’s head when rear facing is universal. For instance, Chicco doesn’t have this requirement. Diono wants 1.5 inches. Diono also has a special addition to the harness, called the “Safe Stop,” which is used for children 22-40 lbs. facing forward only. It is stored on the back of the seat and when installed, limits the load on the child in a crash.

Special Enforcement Week:

A traditional focus to gain attention for protecting kids in the car, *Special Enforcement Week* invites all law enforcement agencies to publicize and focus on violations of cps laws annually. SBS USA is happy to announce that Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County returns as our long-term co-sponsor because they, too, believe we need to emphasize correct, consistent use for every week.

In California, correct use for all ages is required, and the cps law covers kids under age 16. Many parents and professionals think that at age 8, kids no longer need child restraints, but our data and others have shown that age 8 or 4’9” in height are not reliable predictors. That leads to kids 8-12 being likely to be under-protected.

This year, we encourage law enforcement agencies to announce **April 19-25** as the Week when kids’ protection will be much in mind. SBS USA has Citation Reminder Cards available for any California law enforcement agency; request one for each officer serving in the field to provide a brief view of how to assess to enforce our cps law.

In L.A. County, anyone under financial pressure who is ticketed for a cps violation may approach the court and ask to take the research-evaluated “Family Safety in the Car” violator education class to reduce payment for the citation.

The University of California at Irvine research team which evaluated the class found that caregivers’ behavior changed, thus increasing protection for their children. The program won the national “On Your Side” award from Nationwide Insurance in 1996.

Leading up to the Week, ask about the SBS USA roll call trainings available in Los Angeles County.

Emergency Help

There are professionals who are not immersed in cps but who deal directly with families, often in emergent situations. Unlike Technicians, their focus on cps is relatively brief but needs to be accurate. A recent research paper* relays the plan used in the emergency room of Dell Medical Center in Austin, Texas.

Since children arrive at the emergency department at any hour, some may meet the criteria for receiving a safety seat but arrive when trained injury prevention staff are unavailable. To meet that gap in services, a resource guide was developed for use by non-Tech professionals.

The research team reviewed the records from 5/2015-2/2016 to see how the system was used. There were two cohorts reviewed: those eligible for a safety seat and those receiving a safety seat. Of the 113 patients who met criteria for screening, 10.6% actually were screened. Of those who met the criteria, 20 actually received a safety seat of which 90% received the appropriate safety seat based on the child's weight and age.

The researchers concluded that a more effective algorithm was needed to ensure that those meeting the criteria actually were identified; that the resource guide needed improvement to ensure that non-Technicians would select the appropriate product; and that more training of staff was warranted.

Research findings like this alert those of us in the field to the importance of engaging other professionals in training focused on their contribution to our mutual goal of protecting children. SBS USA has developed a brochure to give to social workers who may be called upon to transport kids with little or no identifying information about the child's transportation needs and whose training in cps is collapsed into less than half a day.

*Evaluation of an after-hours child passenger safety resource guide by IJ Pollok et al., *Journal of Trauma Nursing*, 2019

New Seats

✓ **Diono** released two new three-stage seats, rear facing 4-50 lbs., forward facing 22-65 lbs., 40-120 lbs. as a booster, named the 3QX and 3QXT which expire 10 years from purchase. The headrest adjusts with a handle to 10 levels, 20% higher than the prior R models; harness straps are still threaded through slots. The anti-rebound bar must be used rear facing, and there are newborn harness pads.

As with prior models, the required add-on recline base for rear facing, the Safe Stop to be placed on the harness for forward-facing kids 20-40 lbs., the recline foot for forward-facing children over 25 lbs., and the special cushion for lap-belt-only installations remain.

New for the 3QXT are the newborn infant protection insert and the removable side-impact pod. The pod is removed entirely for center seat installation and placed on the door side for outboard locations.

✓ **Orbit Baby** has returned with the rear-facing-only G5 used with its special base, allowing the carrier to be turned toward the side for placing baby correctly. There are three sets of harness slots for babies 4 to 30 lbs., an optional infant head support, a lock-off, and a low-birth-weight kit, including a foam insert under the cover, for those up to 11 lbs., available free from family@orbitbabyusa.com. For airplane travel, omit using the base. Product expiration on the seat is approximately seven years.

✓ **Summer Infant** returned with the Affirm 335, a rear-facing-only seat, beginning at 3 lbs. and covering up to 35 lbs. It uses the handle as an anti-rebound device and has an easy-to-use tensioning arm, not a lock-off, on the base. Without the base, the carrier is installed with the European method of lap section above baby's legs and the shoulder belt around the back of the seat. There are four harness slots at the shoulders and three, for the buckle strap. The harness itself has two sets of loops, the higher for use with slot #1 (for under 8 lbs.), lower, for slots 2 to 4. The extra padding is optional for babies 3-11 lbs. The unique retainer clip has two release buttons. The lower connectors are webbing with hooks. The seat expires in 6 years.



Volunteers are needed to help with exhibits at family-focused events throughout Los Angeles County this spring.

We have a number of invitations to attend lively events and look forward to having volunteers to help with exhibits. Bilingual volunteers are our greatest need.

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.

Safety Seat Checkup Day

Sunday, April 26, 2020 ♦ 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

**Petersen Automotive Museum
6060 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036**

*For a checkup appointment, call SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A., 310/318-5111.

If you do not have an appointment, there may be a wait of more than one hour or you may be turned away.



Buckling up is a family affair.

Free safety seat checkup

More than 90% of safety seats inspected at checkups are being used incorrectly!

Rear-facing until age 2 is now California law.

Find out why most children need a booster seat until age 10-12!

Sponsors:

California Office of Traffic Safety

Pomona Police Department

Toyota Motor North America

Major Supporter:

Petersen Automotive Museum

PETERSEN
AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM



TOYOTA

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. Box 553 Altadena, CA 91003 800/745-SAFE www.carseat.org

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. is the national, non-profit, member-supported organization for child passenger safety.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.