Significant CPS Class Changes Expected in 2014

If you haven’t heard already, several changes have been made to the National Child Passenger Safety (NCPS) Certification Training Program. The most significant change is to the current curriculum used to train potential technicians. In March 2014, an updated curriculum will be used to teach CPS skills to new technicians.

According to the NCPS Board, the most significant change to the curriculum is the look, feel and some of the language that is used. For instance, “top tether” will just be referred to as “tether” in the curriculum since it is always going to be found on the top of the child restraint. Students will now have “quizzes and scoring” instead of “testing and grading” so that they may feel less anxious. Photographs and videos have been updated and are clearer and easier to use.

A major change is the length of the course. As of March 2014, the CPS course will be three days in length instead of four. So, there will still be classroom and skills training as well as the clinic in the community, but this will now be accomplished in less time.

Starting on January 1, 2014, the certification and renewal courses will cost new technicians $85 instead of $75. According to Safe Kids, this is the first adjustment in fees since 2009. This will be the only fee change, so technician and instructor recertification will remain the same cost, which is $50 for technicians and instructor candidates and $60 for instructors.

The Automotive Safety Program will continue to offer scholarships for individuals interested in getting certified as well as mini-grant opportunities for anyone who would like to host a course. The scholarship and mini-grant fees are processed on a reimbursement basis. So, the individual or organization would be responsible for the cost of the course up-front and then the Automotive Safety Program will provide reimbursement after the necessary paperwork has been sent to our office and the individual attending the course passes the class. For more information, please contact April Brooks at apbrooks@iu.edu or 317-274-2977.
Child Safety Seat Inspection Station Activity

During the fourth quarter of the 2012-2013 grant year (July – September) Indiana’s network of child safety seat inspection stations reported a total of 2,520 inspections and distributed 1,055 car seats to children in need. In addition, 82 Project L.O.V.E. vouchers were redeemed.

Thanks to all those involved, a total of 8,948 inspections were completed through our network of child safety seat inspection stations during the 2012-2013 grant year!

New Child Safety Seat Inspection Stations

Please join us in welcoming the following new sites to Indiana’s network of child safety seat inspection stations:

- Ferdinand Police Department Dubois County Coordinated by Chris Miller
- Youth Services Bureau Huntington County Coordinated by Ira Bencun
- Child Adult Resource Services Owen County Coordinator by Jamie Tuttle

Visit www.preventinjury.org for a complete listing of Indiana’s child safety seat inspection stations.

Please contact Marnita Louzon at mllouzon@iu.edu or 1.800.543.6227 if you are interested in establishing a child safety seat inspection station.
Tech Tidbits!

There is a new development in the Cameron Gulbransen Kids Transportation Safety Act, which was passed by Congress in 2008. The act ordered the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue rear visibility cameras in all vehicles by 2014. This ruling was postponed in 2011 and was again postponed in June 2013 until January 2015. Dr. Greg Gulbransen, the father who unintentionally backed over and killed his 2-year-old son Cameron in 2002, has joined others in a lawsuit against the DOT. The DOT stated that they needed more time to deliberate on whether rearview video systems should be a vehicle requirement. The plaintiffs have turned to the courts due to the multiple delays since 2008 and with the hope that the lawsuit will force the agency to act promptly. To learn more, visit http://www.kidsandcars.org/release-the-rear-visibility-standard-april-11-2013.html.

If you are interested in a grant for training materials for CPS, the Manufacturer’s Alliance for Child Passenger Safety (MACPS) is offering a limited number of grants. The application deadline is January 17, 2014 and awardees will be notified the week of February 24, 2014. To apply, visit http://www.saferidenews.com/smdnn/CPSTsProfessionals/ManufacturersAllianceforCPS/tabid/352/Default.aspx.

A new edition of the School Bus Safety Handbook is now available. This handbook provides information about CPS on school buses and is geared toward CPSTs who work with parents or school districts, occupational and physical therapists, drivers and aides, Head Start directors and school transportation administrators. You can order this handbook by visiting www.saferidenews.com.

Registration is now open for the 2014 Lifesavers Conference in Nashville, TN on April 27-29, 2014. The conference will have over 80 different workshops in the areas of child occupant protection, teen driver safety, distracted driving and other traffic safety facts. The early bird rates for the conference apply until January 24, 2014. If you apply before January 24th, the cost to attend the conference is $350. After that, it is $400 until March 14th and then $500 after March 14th. To register, visit http://www.lifesaversconference.org/.

Safe Ride News
Recently, Baby Trend announced that all infant car seats are safe to use in the vehicle with the handle up. This policy was changed due to consumer feedback. The manufacturer confirms that all their infant car seats meet safety standards with the handle up. In the previous policy, the handle was to be put in the rearward position to keep parents from hanging toys on the handle. Parents are encouraged to always read the owner’s manual and, if room allows in the vehicle, keep the handle in the rearward position. The announcement can be read at http://www.prweb.com/printer/11181820.htm.

The 2014 KIDZ IN MOTION (KIM) conference is now accepting abstracts. The conference is in Albuquerque, NM from Aug. 26-28, 2014. The planning committee is looking for technical and programmatic workshops on child occupant protection issues. To submit your abstract, contact Woody Johnston at lwj_3@yahoo.com. The conference website is www.kidzinmotion.org.

The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia’s (CHOP) Center for Research and Prevention website posted recent CPS blogs titled, “The Biomechanics Behind Child Passenger Safety,” “Buyer Beware: When One Study Contradicts All the Rest,” and “Collaborating to Improve Car Seat Safety.” To read more about these studies or to see other CHOP posts on CPS issues, visit http://injury.research.chop.edu/blog/posts/.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) has a new test program that rates the performance of front crash prevention systems to help consumers decide which features to consider and also encourages automakers to quickly adopt the technology. IIHS’s rating system is based on research by the Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI) indicating that automatic braking systems and forward collision warning are helping drivers avoid front-to-rear crashes. You can find a more detailed description of this test program by visiting http://www.iihs.org/iihs/news/desktopnews/iihs-issues-first-crash-avoidance-ratings-under-new-test-program-7-midsize-vehicles-earn-top-marks-for-front-crash-prevention.

Two recent surveys were conducted pertaining to child passenger safety, one from Chicco USA and the other from Safe Kids Worldwide. From September 9-11, 2013, Chicco surveyed over 500 parents in the U.S. who have at least one child who rides in a convertible car seat. The survey was conducted to determine attitudes and behaviors of convertible car seat users. To view the results of this survey, visit http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/new-national-survey-reveals-majority-of-parents-do-not-follow-car-seat-safety-guidelines-224406371.html. Also, Safe Kids Worldwide surveyed more than 1,000 caregivers with children aged 10 and under as to whether they had ever allowed their children to ride unbuckled, as well as their opinions regarding situations that make it acceptable. To learn more about this survey, visit http://www.safekids.org/research-report/do-you-always-buckle-your-kids-september-2013.

The Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS) recently released their booster seat evaluations for 2013. Booster seats were evaluated and put into one of four categories: best bet, good bet, not recommended and check fit. The majority of the booster seats were under the “best bet” category; however, there were four boosters in the “good bet” category and two in the “not recommended” category. To see the IIHS’s most recent booster seat ratings, go to http://www.iihs.org/iihs/ratings/child-boosters.
Tech Tidbits! (cont’d)

CEU OPPORTUNITIES

The National Child Passenger Safety Board (NCPSB) has two new online CEUs available for technicians. CEU session #6 is: “CPS and Children with Autism” and session #7 is: “CPS Nuna Manufacturer Update.” These online CEU sessions and quizzes can be found at http://cpsboard.org/certification-recertification/. You can earn one CEU for each of these sessions by answering four out of five questions correctly on the corresponding quizzes.

A new CEU is available at www.SafeKidsWebinars.org. This module is called “Using Rear Facing Child Restraints Longer.” The webinar can only be completed once for recertification. There are many other CPS CEU opportunities available on this website as well.

NEWS ARTICLES OF INTEREST

On November 18, 2013 an article was published on the Today.com website titled, “Warning for parents: Why bulky winter coats and car seats don’t mix.” The article quotes Dr. Benjamin Hoffman, medical director of the Tom Sargent Safety Center at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital in Portland, Oregon. Dr. Hoffman was the guest speaker at the KIM Conference this past August in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He states in the article, “Anything between the child and the straps is compressible; it’s like having space, which creates more risk that the child could thrust forward into the straps in the event of a crash.” To read the article, visit http://www.today.com/moms/warning-parents-why-bulky-winter-coats-car-seats-dont-mix-2D11585035.

A recent article on Slate.com titled, “Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About #%!@%! Car Seats” is an article from the parent/caregiver perspective. This article covers many topics that parents struggle with in reference to car seats and installation. The writer attempts to explain the reason for the issue or what can be done to remedy the problem. Go to http://www.slate.com/articles/double_x/the_kids/2013/10/car_seats_from_rear_facing_to_forward_facing_to_booster_everything_you_need.html to view the article.

Recently, the New York Times online did an article on child passenger safety titled, “Strapped In, but Still at Risk.” The article covers basic CPS issues and cites professionals in the industry. To view the article, visit http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/12/business/strapped-in-but-still-at-risk.html?_r=1&.

In November 2013, a couple in Utah lost control of their car and nearly died; however, they survived and attributed seat belts for saving their lives and the life of their baby. The mother was properly wearing her seat belt under her belly when the crash happened, so her unborn baby survived the accident as well. Visit http://www.ksl.com/?sid=27697288&nid=148&s_cid=rss-extlink to view the video and article.
NEW VIDEOS & PSAS

If you’ve ever wanted to have video proof of the dangers of projectiles, you now have it in the form of a PSA. When this PSA aired in the UK, the number of back seat passengers who started to buckle up was extraordinary. To view the PSA, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=lw2aevh6oZ8.

RESEARCH

In September 2013, NHTSA and the DOT released a publication by the National Center for Statistics and Analysis called “Evaluation of the Certified-Advanced Air Bags.” This report analyzed the changes and redesigns of frontal air bags and their effect on occupant protection in frontal crashes. Overall, the analysis did not find any evidence that certified-advanced air bags result in higher fatality risk to front-seat occupants in frontal crashes when compared to sled-certified air bags. To read the details of this report, visit http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811834.pdf.

On November 14, 2013, the DOT and NHTSA released the 2012 Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data indicating that highway deaths were 33,561 in 2012, which is 1,082 more fatalities than in 2011. Most of the deaths were in the first quarter of the year and were highest among motorcyclists and pedestrians. To review this data, visit http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811856.pdf.

The following reports were recently published in reference to child passenger safety issues:

◊ “Effectiveness of Booster Seats with No Restraint or Seat Belt Alone for Crash Injury Prevention” – Academic Emergency Medicine – Oct. 10, 2013 – this publication is available for purchase at the following link: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/acem.12204/abstract;jsessionid=8E52FC57C646F47229F021C79108712A.f02t01
◊ “An Inpatient Child Passenger Safety Program” – Clinical Pediatrics – Oct. 31, 2013 – this publication is available for purchase at the following link: http://epj.sagepub.com/content/52/11/1022.short
◊ “Are Parents Following the Recommendations for Keeping Children Younger than 2 Years Rear Facing During Motor Vehicle Travel?” – Injury Prevention – Nov. 14, 2013 – this publication is available for purchase at the following link: http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/early/2013/10/28/injuryprev-2013-040894.short
NEW PRODUCTS

Baby Trend Hybrid Combination Seat
- Forward-facing with harness: 22-50 lbs., 29-48 in.
- Highback booster: 30-100 lbs., 42-50 in.
- Backless booster: 40-100 lbs., 42-57 in.
- 6 position adjustable headrest
- Side impact protection
- Front adjust harness
- MSRP: $89.98
- www.babytrend.com

RECALLS

Orbit Baby – Model:
- Orbit Baby Car Seat Base G2 (Model No. ORB822000)
  * Manufactured between March 20, 2013 and July 20, 2013, with one of the following Batch Numbers: A0840, A0860 and A0880
  * Does not affect any Orbit Baby Infant Car Seats, just the G2 base
  * In some instances, the StrongArm knob on the affected Car Seat Base G2, used to securely tighten the base into the vehicle, may detach or spin without tightening the base, preventing the installation of the Car Seat Base G2 in accordance with the instruction manual
  * The Orbit Baby Infant Car Seat G2 can continue to be used without the Car Seat Base G2 in accordance with the instruction manual
  * Voluntary recall – no reports of injury have been reported
  * Orbit Baby will make a repair kit available
  * To obtain a repair kit when it’s available or for any inquiries, consumers can contact Orbit Baby Customer Service at 1-877-672-2229
Webinars

Tuesday, January 21, 2014
2014 Curriculum Orientation - CPST Instructors and IC
(Only open to CPST Instructors and
Instructor Candidates)
2 pm — 3 pm ET (East Coast/NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 0
Cost: Free
For more information:
https://www.1.gotomeeting.com/register/813446392

Thursday, January 23, 2014
Safe Kids and State Farm present:
Child Restraint Manufacturer: What’s New?
2 pm — 3 pm ET (East Coast/NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 1
(CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Cost: Free
Pre-registration is required

2014 Indiana Injury Prevention Conference and
18th Annual Child Safety Advocate Awards

April 7-8, 2014
Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre Hotel
Indianapolis, IN
Cost: $100 before February 1, 2014 —
$125 after February 1, 2014
Contact: J.J. Current, 1.800.543.6227, jeurrent@iu.edu
www.preventinjury.org

2014 Lifesavers Conference

April 27-29, 2014
Gaylord Opryland
Nashville, TN
National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities
www.lifesaversconference.org

10th Annual Kidz In Motion (KIM) Conference

August 25-28, 2014
Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa
Albuquerque, NM
National Conference Dedicated to
Child Passenger Safety Professionals
www.kidzinmotion.org

National Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Week

September 14-20, 2014

National Seat Check Saturday

September 20, 2014