

# HIGHWAY SAFETY



Program

# *Buckle Up Express*

*FEATURING WYOMING'S CPS TEAM*

VOLUME 43

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*WYDOT Highway Safety Program and Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Injury Prevention*

## January Child Passenger Safety Class



Congratulations to the ten individuals from across the state that attended and successfully passed the CPS class in Casper in January. The class was held at the City Center Building in Casper as part of the Casper Fire Department and concluded with a check-up event for the students to use their new skills. Students came from Green River, Riverton, Rock Springs, Cheyenne, Pinedale and Casper. Jacob Ribordy from Sweetwater County Fire District #1 attended the class as an instructor candidate and is now added to the Wyoming instructor team. Dustin Ragon with Wyoming Highway Patrol attended as an intern, completing his first step to becoming an instructor.

*Congratulations to the entire class and welcome to the Wyoming Child Passenger Safety Team!*

## Technician Proxy: It's Official

**Instructors have long had the opportunity to partner with experienced technicians who may serve as their proxy for the observation and verification of another technician's installations required for re-certification. This relationship was an individual one and was neither reviewed nor approved by Safe Kids. After careful consideration of an official request by the National Child Passenger Safety Board, this position is now official.**

For more information, check out the new [I'm A Tech](#) section of the new web site and then Tech Proxy.

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***Fact or Fiction: I can still act as a Tech Proxy without submitting an application.***

**Fiction:** Previously, an Instructor would identify a seasoned technician to act as their eyes and ears in the field to observe Technicians while they worked with a family. The Technician Proxy would observe and verify the installation and report back to the Instructor. This was an informal process that was not reviewed by the CPS Certification program.

After feedback from the field and the CPS Board, a formal application was introduced and implemented in October 2011. This replaced the informal agreement and established formal and rigorous guidelines.

# Wyoming's Technician Re-certification

Below are the simple steps on what it takes to re-certify.

**Remember-you are responsible for entering your information on-line to re-certify.**

*The steps for re-certification are not as complicated as they may seem and we need to all try to complete them to maintain our certification. Follow these simple steps below, start early and you will not lose your certification.*

*You will need your username and password to be able to enter all your information into your profile at: <http://www.safekids.org/certification/>. Call 877-366-8154, if you do not have that information.*

**1) Five seat checks** approved by a certified instructor or proxy. If needing a proxy in your area, contact [stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org](mailto:stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org)

**2) Community education** (Have a certificate of proof in case of auditing)

**OPTION 1:** Two-hour check up event with at least one other CPS Technician at which you serve families using any standardized checklist to provide documentation, if needed. Visit [safekidswyoming.org](http://safekidswyoming.org)

**OPTION 2:** Provide at least four hours of community education. Examples include presenting to parents, educators, kids, organizations (PTAs, law enforcement). These are presentations to non-CPSTs. You are welcome to combine smaller events for the requirement.

**3) Minimum of six hours** of CPS technical continuing education units (See below)

CEUs are self-certified and are subject to random auditing.

Remember to print the proof of your CEUs in case of auditing.

**4) Register and pay** the re-certification fee **before and within 4 months of your certification expiration date**

## **Easy ways to get all 6 CEUs !**

### **Newsletter Category/Max 3 CEUs in this Category**

1 CEU—Every Wyoming Technician is credited one CEU for receiving the Safe Ride News Publication. Contact [nancy@saferidenews.com](mailto:nancy@saferidenews.com) for Proof of Purchase

1 CEU— Take the LATCH Manual Quiz. Go to [saferidenews.com](http://saferidenews.com) to learn more

1 CEU—Take the CR Manufacturer's Quiz. Go to [carseat.org](http://carseat.org) to learn more

1 CEUs—Reading the Tech Update and taking quizzes at [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org)

### **Online/Web Sessions Category/Max 5 CEUs in this Category**

4 CEUs— Three presentations and Quizzes on [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org)

7 CEUs-- <http://www.safekidswebinars.org/>

4.5 CEUs-<http://www.buckleupnc.org/training/index.cfm>

5 CEUs- <http://advocates.britaxusa.com/default.aspx> Britax

1 CEU- <http://www.safetymadeeasier.com/> Evenflo

### **In-person Session Category/Max 6 CEUs in this Category**

The update course for 6 CEUs may be taught by a technician. For more information on the course, contact: [Stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org](mailto:Stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org).

### **Informative Websites:**

- [Safekidswyoming.org](http://Safekidswyoming.org)  
**Safe Kids Wyoming**
- [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)  
National Hwy Traffic Safety Administration
- [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)  
Safe Kids Worldwide
- [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)  
SafetyBeltSafe USA
- [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org)  
National Child Passenger Safety Board
- [www.dot.state.wy.us](http://www.dot.state.wy.us)  
Wyoming Department of Transportation
- [www.carseatdata.org/](http://www.carseatdata.org/)  
Car seat Compatibility List
- [www.hsrec.unc.edu](http://www.hsrec.unc.edu)  
Car Seat Recall List
- [www.kidsncars.org](http://www.kidsncars.org)  
Kids Safe In and Around Cars

Why use the internet? The NHTSA website offers you the newest recalls, program information, and free materials. The CPS Board site provides Technician Update Reports on new products, techniques and recertification answers.

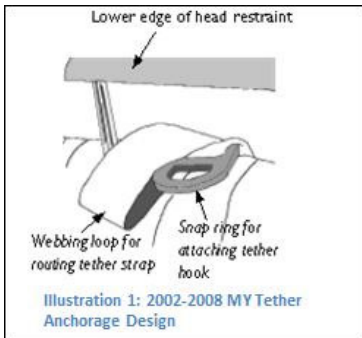


## What it means when the Child Restraint Touches the Front Vehicle Seatback

As Child Restraints trend somewhat bigger while vehicles trend smaller, technicians more and more often find themselves in situations that involve the child restraint touching the front seatback. Anytime this is the case, both the vehicle and the child restraint owner's manuals should be consulted and followed. Specific instructions regarding the child restraint exerting pressure on the front passenger seat in vehicles with an advanced airbag should be found in the vehicle owner's manual. Specific advice should also be sought from the child restraint manufacturer; if nothing is mentioned, this typically means that the manufacturer does not mind if the child restraint rests against the front seatback, providing the overall installation is still correct. Child restraint and vehicle manufacturers are constantly testing the performance of their own products, both through regulated and voluntary methods, so it is crucial to follow the most up-to-date manufacturer's directions for the particular equipment in use.

*September/October 2011 Safe Ride News*

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## Correction to Some Chrysler Truck Owner's Manuals

Chrysler Group LLC recently discovered that the owner's manuals for certain 2009-2011 Ram Quad Cab and Ram Crew Cab Trucks incorrectly described the design of the tether anchorage. The description in the owner's manual applied to Ram trucks built prior to 2009 model year, which featured a webbing loop for tether strap routing and a metal "snap ring" inside the webbing loop for attaching the tether hook. A strap-only design, which uses a heavy-duty webbing loop for both tether strap routing and tether hook attachment, was introduced in 2009 Ram light-duty pickups and in 2010

Ram heavy-duty pickups and chassis cab trucks.

Chrysler Group has since updated their on-line owner's manuals and user's guides for 2009-2011 to reflect the strap-only design. CPS Technicians and owners of the affected trucks can download the updated information from Chrysler Group's [web site](#).

The following vehicle models may have incorrect owner's manual information:

- 2009-2011 Ram 1500 Quad or Crew Cab Trucks
- 2010-2011 Ram 2500/3500 Crew Cab Trucks
- 2010-2011 Ram 3500/4500/5500 Quad or Crew Cab Trucks

Note: This issue does not affect owners of standard cab (2-door) or "Mega" cab trucks because these cab styles feature conventional tether anchorage designs.

Both tether anchorage designs meet or exceed the strength requirements of FMVSS 225. Both designs allow the two outboard tether hooks to be attached to the center anchorage at the same time. CPST's should direct owners of the affected trucks to the manufacturer's website to download the updated tether instructions. Owners should also be reassured that their strap-only anchorages are safe and are not "missing" any parts.

*Submitted by Audrey Eagle, Sr. Specialist & Child Passenger Safety Advocate, Chrysler Group LLC (Auburn Hills, MI)*

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## Upcoming Child Passenger Safety Technician Trainings

**Certification Course:** Sheridan / August, 2012 / Details to be announced

**Renewal Course:** *(If expired and would like to be renewed in an 8 hour course)*  
Laramie / March 5, 2012 / Fire Department

**Update Course:** *(If currently certified and need to receive your 6 CEUs and seats checked off)*  
Laramie / March 3, 2012 / Fire Department

(email: [Stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org](mailto:Stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org) for registration information for the Renewal and Update Courses)

# HIGHWAY SAFETY



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## Lifesavers Conference: National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities

### Registration Now Open for the 30<sup>th</sup> Lifesavers Conference!

Registration is now open for the Lifesavers 2012 Conference, June 14-16, 2012 in Orlando, Florida.

Lifesavers offers over 90 workshops to choose from during the breakout sessions, and over 125 exhibits showcasing latest technology and innovations in highway safety. This is your chance to network with traffic safety leaders from all over the United States.

Go to [www.lifesaversconference.org](http://www.lifesaversconference.org) to:

- Register for the conference (\$300 early bird special until January 31, 2012)
- Reserve your hotel room

**The Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin** is our headquarters hotel and conference center, where all events will take place. The hotel rate is \$189/night, and guests receive many special Disney benefits! For more information, call 703-922-7944, or email us at [lofgren@meetingsmgmt.com](mailto:lofgren@meetingsmgmt.com)

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*Britax has issued a statement on their website and is making owners of their convertible seats aware of a potentially missing screw(s)/nut(s) at the base joint connector(s). **This only affects Next Generation convertible car seats manufactured between July 2010 and August 2011.** This missing screw/nut does not affect the performance or safety of the convertible seat. Owners with questions should go to [www.britaxusa.com](http://www.britaxusa.com) to learn more and obtain a replacement screw(s)/nut(s).*