

Safe Kids Worldwide Statement on Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Booster Seat Status Report

Thursday, November 07, 2013

Safe Kids Worldwide applauds the efforts of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) for its Booster Seat Status Report. As technology produces more advances in child passenger safety, it is important to conduct a thorough evaluation of product safety and proper use of child seats for children of all ages, shapes and sizes.

Parents have a number of choices on how to protect their children when they are passengers in a vehicle. This list of booster seats offers additional information to help parents check the fit of every seat, even those on the "Best" and "Good" list, to be sure it is right for their child.

It is important to remember that children with identical weights and heights don't always fit in the same car seats or boosters. The size of a child's legs and torso make a difference when determining the proper fit of a booster seat. The final step in the selection is to ensure that the lap and shoulder belts fit correctly. The seat belt should rest across the child's hips, not the stomach, and the shoulder belt should rest on the shoulder, not the neck or face.

As children grow, we watch them progress from rear facing seats to forward-facing seats to booster seats and finally to seat belts. We urge parents to continually check their car seats to ensure they have the right seat for their child.

No booster seats have been recalled as a result of this report.

All manufacturers provide customer service to answer questions about their products. Safe Kids, with the support of the General Motors Foundation, also hosts thousands of child seat inspections across the country as part of its <u>Buckle Up program</u>. Parents can find an inspection station in their area or more information on how to keep kids safe in and around cars by visiting <u>Safekids.org</u>.

Media Contact: Jen Pollakusky jpollakusky@safekids.org 202-662-4476