

Connecticut Technician Report

September 2003

About the Contributor/Instructor:

Sgt. Martin Lane, Connecticut State Police, Troop E - Montville. Many of you had known me from my CPS Fitting Station work at Troop F in Westbrook from 1999 to 2003. Since being transferred to the Montville barracks last February, my work duties have changed a great deal. Due to new and different responsibilities, I have not had the opportunity or the time to participate in many CPS events. In taking the time to do a little research for this monthly update, I was shocked to see how many new products are on the market and how much I have missed. I found that the individual web sites for product manufactures do provide good information about the newest seats on the market. However, as I can now attest, if you don't get the necessary HANDS ON EXPERIENCE of INSTALLING & SECURING, you may be completely lost and without a clue on how to properly inspect the installation of the newest child passenger safety seats that parents are purchasing for their children. My only advice is, stay informed, remain active and read, read and reread.

CPS Questionnaire

Connecticut's DOT is requesting that you fill out and fax back a questionnaire about your involvement in child passenger safety. This questionnaire is available at the end of this document and also as a PDF on the tech report portion of CT SAFE KIDS' website www.ctsafekids.org/technicianreports/index.htm

National SAFE KIDS Campaign taking over certification process from AAA

NHTSA recently announced that the National SAFE KIDS Campaign will serve as the new certifying body for the National Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training Program (NSCPS Training Program), effective January 1, 2004. NHTSA stated that they "are most encouraged by the fresh approach SAFE KIDS brings to this undertaking." Regular updates concerning these changes will be posted on the CPS Board Web site at www.cpsboard.org and additional updates, including e-mails and postcards, will be distributed periodically.

As SAFE KIDS works with AAA to ensure a seamless transition, they will be looking to all of our partners in child passenger safety for new ideas on refining the certification process.

Graco Recall (from NHTSA):

NHTSA is advising consumers that Graco Children's Products is expanding a safety recall originally for SnugRide infant child restraints built between March 1, 2002, and March 6, 2003 for missing hooks and pins used to attach the infant carrier to the base of the restraint. The additional recall includes SnugRide infant car seats, which have a manufacturer date of March 7 or 8, 2003, may also be missing the hooks and pins. If the hardware is missing, the carrier may not be securely attached to the base. In the event of a sudden stop or vehicle crash, the carrier could detach from the base, possibly resulting in serious injury or death to the occupant of the seat.

Instructions for inspection can be obtained from NHTSA [www.nhtsa.dot.gov/CPS/ChildSeats/SNUGEXT_INSP.pdf] and at Graco's web site, www.gracobaby.com. The infant carrier may, however, be used in the car without the base. More information is available NHTSA's recall information page at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallsearch.cfm> under the recall number 03C-003000.

NHTSA Funds 48 States for CPS Education

NHTSA announced 48 states received funding to help implement child passenger protection programs. With these grants states may fund activities such as:

- child safety seat checkpoints at safety events and during enforcement efforts;
- permanent fitting inspection stations;
- loaner programs;
- education and information outreach to rural, low-income and minority communities;
- education and training activities targeted to Native American tribes;
- education and training activities to reach children with special needs;
- educational outreach to elementary and secondary schools;
- promotion of child passenger safety

Of the \$7.5 million from this Child Passenger Protection Education Grant Program, Connecticut received \$74,639.

The (formerly-known-as) Tri-state Conference

New York and New Jersey are holding the Third Annual Child Passenger Safety Conference, September 18 through September 20, 2003 at the Marriott Hotel in Bridgewater, New Jersey. Registration is \$85 and attendance is limited to 450 people. **The agenda for the conference appears at the end of this report.** For more information on the conference, contact:

(New York) Debbie Lotito dloti@dmv.state.ny.us or visit <http://www.safeny.com>

(New Jersey) Ed O'Connor lphocon@smtp.lps.state.nj.us

Classes and Updates

Connecticut Child Passenger Safety Update

South Windsor Police Department will be holding a CPS update in South Windsor on September 22nd. Please contact Tom Field of South Windsor Police Department at 860-644-8716 for more details.

The Connecticut SAFE KIDS is holding the 2003 version of the SAFE KIDS update in Middletown on October 21st. Please contact Karen Brock at 860-545-9977 to register or for additional details. This class is free of charge.

Connecticut Child Passenger Safety Classes

There are two upcoming CPS classes. If you do not see a class that fits the needed time frame or geographic location, please contact an instructor as they might have additional information on classes. A list of instructors is located on the technician report homepage.

A class is planned September 23rd through September 26th in South Windsor. Please contact Tom Field of South Windsor Police Department at 860-644-8716.

Another class is planned for October 7th through 10th in Fairfield County. Please contact Bob Cordes of Fairfield County SAFE KIDS at 203-325-7332.

2003 Child Passenger Safety Technical Conference
September 18-20, 2003
Bridgewater Marriott

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, September 18th

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Registration
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Opening Plenary Session
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Keynote Speaker; Alan Korn, Attorney and Legal Advisor for National Safe Kids
11:00 am – 11:50 am	Workshop Session I <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fitting Station Study- Crash Test Results- Serving Inner City Populations- CPS in Emergency Vehicles- When Does Enforcement End and Education Begin?- Leveraging Your Resources
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm – 2:50 pm	Workshop Session II <ul style="list-style-type: none">- “Instructors Only” Roundtable Discussion- TREAD Crash Rating System- CSS in Public Transportation- Crash Reconstruction in CPS- Panel: Ask the Vehicle Manufacturers- NHTSA Update-
3:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Workshop Session III <ul style="list-style-type: none">- State Meetings for NY and NJ- Fitting Station Study
5:30 pm	Buses leave for evening activity

Friday, September 19th

7:30 am - 8:45 am	Continental Breakfast
9:00 am – 9:50 am	Workshop Session IV <ul style="list-style-type: none">- CPS Self Sufficiency- Belt Positioning Booster Seats and Reduction of Injury Risk- Side Impact Air Bags- CPS for Children with Special Health Needs- What’s Ahead in CPS; National Overview- Latch & Tethers (classroom)

10:00 am 0 10:50 am

Workshop Session V

- **CPS in Health Care Settings**
- **Creating a Successful Check Up Event**
- **Working With Local AAA**
- **Special Needs (Part II)**
- **CPS and School Buses**
- **Crash Reconstruction in CPS**

11:00 am – 11:50 am

Workshop Session VI

- **CPS Simulation Model**
- **Diversity – Regional Success Stories**
- **Air Bags for First Responders**
- **Meeting With the Car Seat Manufacturers**
- **Belt Positioning Booster Seats (repeat)**

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

Lunch

2:00 pm – 2:50 pm

Workshop Session VII

- **Working With Families**
- **Crash Test Results (repeat)**
- **Re-Certification**
- **Meeting With the Car Seat Manufacturers**
- **Practitioner Liability**
- **CPS Laws; How Are They Enforced?**

3:30 pm

**Break with Sponsors/Exhibitors
Prepare for Evening Activities**

Saturday, September 20th

8:00 am – 9:30 am

Full Breakfast

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

CPS Courses

- **Technician Re-Certification**
- **Refresher Course/Update**
- **School Bus Curriculum (NEW!) – Train the Trainer**

CPS TECHNICIAN QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email: _____

1.) Please indicate what best describes your current role in child passenger safety:

I am still involved in the child restraint issue. (Please check all that apply.)

One on one inspection of car seats by appointment.

Educational Presentations (list type of audience you are reaching)

Car Seat Clinics

Other _____

I am not involved in the child restraint issue for these reasons (Please check all that apply.)

Lack of funding

Lack of support from department or place of work

Lack of time

Change in position

Other _____

2.) Please send me updated child passenger safety information by e-mail or mail (circle one)

E-mail address _____

PLEASE FAX OR MAIL YOUR RESPONSE TO THE
DIVISION OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AT (860)594-2374
Or email James.Peay@po.state.ct.us