We don't want you to miss out on the latest edition of the **CPS Express!** Please add cps.certification@safekids.org to your address book or safe list today.

When was the last time you checked the information in your CPS online profile?

<u>Please do it now!</u> This newsletter is available as a <u>PDF</u>

CPS Express E-News for CPS Technicians



November 2015

IN THIS EDITION

- Announcements and Notices
- Program Reminders
- General
- Just For Instructors
- <u>CEU Corner</u>

TECH GEAR ONLINE STORE

Proud to be a tech? Strut your stuff!

Need Tech or Instructor tees or polos? Travel mugs? Event signs? Training dolls?

Look no further than the <u>Tech Online Store</u>.

ADVERTISE WITH US

Learn more about CPS Express Ad Space

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

You could be the 2016 Tech or Instructor of the Year!

Each year, the National CPS Board sponsors the CPS Technician and Instructor of the Year awards. This is the only national award that honors the men and women who dedicate their time, passion and skills to help improve the safety of children and their caregivers on the road. We asked Suzanne LeDoyen, 2015 Instructor of the Year, and Jan Parker, who nominated Suzanne, what this award meant to them. Here is what Jan Parker shared with us:

"I was motivated to nominate Suzanne because she has contributed statewide by serving on the North Carolina Child Passenger Safety training committee for several years. I observed her interaction with students in classes and heard very positive comments from technicians who had found Suzanne to be the instructor willing to give extra encouragement when needed. She is always willing to go the extra mile to help others who are struggling with a challenging situation, whether in the classroom or the backseat of a vehicle. Suzanne has been a pleasure to work with through the years.

I absolutely am so proud of Suzanne's accomplishment and have shared the news of her prestigious designation as Instructor of the Year every chance I get. I recently recommended that a television talk show host interview her to build awareness about CPS and hopefully encourage parents and caregivers to seek help and keep their children as safe as possible. It is very rewarding and touching to have been Suzanne's friend for so many years, and to recall so many fond memories of some early CPS events that we partnered on. The NC Department of Insurance (Safe Kids NC) is thrilled to see this recognition given to Suzanne, who has been a real role model for many CPS advocates in the state."

And here is what Suzanne LeDoyen told us about what the award meant to her:

"In 2015 I received an honor of a lifetime when I was nominated and awarded the 2015 National Child Passenger Safety Instructor of the Year. I experienced many emotions when I received the notification, but for me, I was truly humbled when I found out that I was nominated by two of my original instructors from my technician certification course many years before. I remember when I took that first certification course I looked up to those ladies and was in total awe of the knowledge they had and their ability to impart that to their students. I never imagined that over 10 years later two of the people I looked up to the most have take the time to nominate me.

When I was handed the award I felt like I was accepting it on behalf of my fellow instructors from North Carolina. I am proud to work with these people along with many other outstanding instructors, and honestly learn something new from a fellow instructor every time I teach. I also was proud to take this award back to my agency, which has allowed me to invest a great deal of time into child passenger safety. Receiving this recognition is something I take very seriously and will cherish for the remainder of my career. I challenge each of you to take the time to identify someone in your local community that exhibits a great deal of passion and commitment while maintaining the integrity of the curriculum."

Each year we hear from techs and instructors that they don't feel "worthy" of national recognition. This is a testament to the quiet CPS heroes who are working tirelessly in the community. Each of us knows someone like Jan Parker or Suzanne LeDoyen who has inspired them, mentored them or in some way sparked their passion for CPS. These are the people that the Board seeks to honor each year. Tell us about these everyday heroes by nominating them for the National CPS Tech or Instructor of the Year.

For information, guidelines, eligibility and the application, go to www.cpsboard.org/award-nominations. The nomination period will continue through November 20, 2015. Late applications will not be accepted.

Submitted by Audrey Eagle, National Child Passenger Safety Board, Vehicle Manufacturers Representative (Auburn Hills, MI), and Sarah Tilton, National Child Passenger Safety Board, At-Large Representative (Ft. Mill, SC)

A Call for Diverse Resources in Child Passenger Safety

Have you ever been in a situation where you wished you had CPS resources in other languages, other vehicles (e.g. school bus; ambulance) or for children with CPS such as special needs? Wouldn't you like to have this information available in a centralized location?

The National Child Passenger Safety Board's Diversity Committee recognizes this need, and we need your help to create a CPS Resource Library. This CPS Resource Library is being developed to meet your needs, based on information we receive from you. The short survey, link below, will help the Diversity Committee gather information that will be used in developing diverse resources that can be easily located on the CPS Board's website. The development of the Resource Library will be a challenging task but it is our hope that you will act as a resource for us in providing us with much needed feedback. Once developed, it is our hope that you find this library useful for helping you meet the CPS needs for diverse populations in your respective areas for years to come.

Please submit your resources online.

All resources submitted to the Diversity Committee for the CPS Resource Library will be reviewed for accuracy and applicability to the CPS community (techs/instructors, parents/caregivers) with particular focus on best practice recommendations set forth by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

Submitted by Angela Brown, National Child Passenger Safety Board, Diversity Chair (Nashville, TN)

New Report: Injuries and violence in the United States Cost \$671 billion in 2013

A new study shows that injuries cost the US \$671 billion in 2013 and injuries and violence create substantial economic burden.

The total cost of injuries and violence in the United States was \$671 billion in 2013, according to two Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR) released today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The cost associated with fatal injuries was \$214 billion; nonfatal injuries was \$457 billion. Each year, more than three million people are hospitalized, 27 million people are treated in emergency departments and released and more than 192,000 die as a result of unintentional and violence related injuries.

"Injuries cost Americans far too much money, suffering and preventable death" said CDC director Tom Frieden, M.D., M.P.H. "The doubling of deaths by drug poisoning, including prescription drug overdose and heroin, is particularly alarming."

Other key findings of the research:

Over half of the total medical and work loss costs of injury deaths were attributable to unintentional injuries (\$129.7 billion), followed by suicide (\$50.8 billion) and homicide (\$26.4 billion).

- Drug poisonings accounted for the largest share of fatal injury costs (27%), followed by transportation (23%) and firearm-related injuries (22%).
- The total estimated lifetime medical and work loss costs for hospitalized injuries were \$289.7 billion in 2013, while the costs for injuries that were treated and released in hospital and emergency departments were \$167.1 billion.
- Falls (37%) and transportation-related injuries (21%) accounted for a majority of the medical and work loss costs associated with emergency department treated nonfatal injuries.
- Males accounted for the majority (78%) of fatal injury costs (\$166.7 billion) and nonfatal injury costs (63%; \$287.5 billion).

"The magnitude of costs associated with injury underscores the need for effective prevention," said Deb Houry, M.D., M.P.H., director of CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. "Communities and states must increase efforts to implement evidence-based programs and policies to prevent injuries and violence to reduce not only the pain and suffering of people, but the considerable costs to society.

Read the article.

New NHTSA Reports

Driver Electronic Device Use in 2014

The National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS) revealed that he percentage of drivers texted or visibly manipulating handheld devices increased from 1.7 percent in 2013 to 2.2 percent in 2014; this was a statistically significant increase. Driver handheld cell phone use decreased from 4.6 percent in 2013 to 4.3 percent in 2014 (Figure 1); however, this was not a statistically significant decrease. (NOPUS), which provides the only nationwide probability-based observed data on driver electronic device use in the United States. The NOPUS is conducted annually by the National Center for Statistics and Analysis of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Read the report.

Traffic Safety Fact Sheet 2013 "Older Population"

In 2013, there were 5,671 people 65 and older killed and an estimated 222,000 injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes. These older people made up 17 percent of all traffic fatalities and 10 percent of all people injured in traffic crashes during the year. Compared to 2012, fatalities among older people increased by 1 percent and injuries increased by 4 percent.

Read the report.

Checking Seats: Moving Beyond the Technical

"Please fill out the top part of this form and sign the waiver. I'll be right back".

"Hi! Thank you for taking time to get your child's car seat checked today. I'm Alexis and I'm looking forward to working with you so you feel confident and comfortable using the car seat. If you would, please take a minute to carefully fill out the top part of this checklist and then read, sign and date the waiver. I'll be right back and we can get started."

What a difference, right? As technicians, we may focus on the technical aspects of the seat check: appropriate location, direction, selection, harnessing, and installation. That's not the whole picture. First and foremost, we are educators. To help us be better communicators, the National Child Passenger Safety Board Quality Assurance Committee has put together a communication assessment. Developed using several assessment tools currently being used in the field, its purpose is to strengthen communication between the caregiver and technician. You will note that it is not an inspection station checklist: it is not for identifying recalls, harness placement, snugness or locked belts.

Techs are not needed for this! In fact, this may be a great way to use non-CPST volunteers at your next event. Basically, they watch the checkup and check the boxes when the technician completes each item. After the check, the tech can review the assessment to identify ways they can be more effective communicators. This tool is great for experienced techs/instructors and newbies!

Keep in mind that the goal of the form is to improve interactions, not to penalize technician. Stay positive!

Download the assessment here.

Submitted by Alexis Kagiliery, National Child Passenger Safety Board, Safe Kids Worldwide Representative (Boynton Beach, Florida)

Policy and Procedures Manual Updates

<u>Policies and Procedures Manual</u> (ver. 4/2014) - No edits or updates. Child Passenger Safety Technician Code of Conduct

PROGRAM REMINDER

Recertification

- Recertification Details
- Recertification FAQS

You may recertify up to four months before your certification expiration date without losing any time.

Avoid problems - don't delay!

Basic Recertification Requirements and Deadlines

<u>Five seat checks</u> approved by a certified instructor (you may use the technician proxy option). You can do the checks at any time during your certification cycle as long as they are entered online and a certified instructor approves them before your recertification date. Use the lists at <u>Get a Car Seat Checked</u> to find an event (NHTSA or Safe Kids) or instructor (Find A Tech) near you.

Community education (choose one):

- Participation in at least one two-hour checkup event with at least one other CPS technician using any standardized checklist to provide documentation, if needed.
- Provide at least four hours of community education. Examples include making presentations to parents, educators, kids, organizations (such as PTAs or law enforcement), or other stakeholders who are not technicians.

A minimum of six hours of <u>CPS technical continuing education units</u> (CEUs) earned and reported during a current two-year certification cycle.

- You cannot carry over CEUs from one period to the next, even if you have accumulated more CEUs than are required
- Because your certification cycle stays the same, any CEUs obtained after you recertify but before the first day of your new certification cycle may not be applied to the new cycle
- You can record CEUs at any time during your certification cycle, but they must fit into one of the five approved categories and meet content requirements.

Register and pay the recertification fee before your certification expiration date. You can register up to four months in advance of your certification expiration date. You will NOT lose any time - your dates stay the same.

- To get to the payment screen, you must have:
 - Completed all five seat checks (entered and CPSTI approved)
 - o Entered at least six CEUs
 - Entered your community event information
- Once all three are done and you are within four months of your certification expiration date, you will see a "Click Here
 to Continue" button that will take you to the payment screens. Once your registration is complete, your recertification
 will be processed in no more than two days.
- PPTs/PDFs with step-by-step instructions and screen shots are available. Check out the Resources tab and look at the How To page.

CPS Customer Service Survey Available

Safe Kids is interested in your experiences with our CPS customer service. If you have contacted the customer service representatives by calling the toll-free number (877-366-8154) or by e-mailing them at cps.certification@safekids.org, please take a few minutes to complete the online survey under Contact Us on the Certification Web site.

This <u>survey</u> should take no more than two minutes to complete. There is no limit to the number of times you can share your opinions with us.

Thank you for helping us to improve our customer service!

GENERAL | Top

By the Numbers

Deaths of children in hot cars

- **2015**: 23
- 2014: 31
- **2013**: 43
- 2012: 34
- **2011**: 33
- 2010: 49

Details are available at http://noheatstroke.org

CPS Recertification

- 2015: 58.6 percent (January-October)
- 2014: 56.0 percent
- 2013: 58.5 percent
- 2012: 54.9 percent

How I Traveled 7,600 Miles and Felt Right at Home

I recently traveled to Doha, Qatar to celebrate National Child Passenger Safety Week with our friends and partners at Hamad International Training Center (HITC). It was my sixth trip to Doha since HITC created the first child passenger safety program in the Middle East in 2012, and every time I return I feel more connected. The people are the heart of the country. Honesty, integrity and pride are universal among all whom I met.

When I go to Qatar it is like going to visit family. From Hameed at HITC welcoming us at the airport to dinner and shopping with friends to meeting new people. Everyone shares compassion, dedication and commitment to protecting their children, families, friends and fellow countryman from harm and sadness. I am honored to say they have become my friends and they have made a profound impact on my views of the conflicts that are felt around the world.

When I'm in Qatar, my job is to lead the National CPS Certification trainings, cultivate new technicians and instructors and assist in the recertification process. The training is extremely popular and HITC has a waiting list for each class, which is all the more impressive when you consider the challenges of building and sustaining a network of technicians and instructors: No child passenger safety laws, lack of injury and fatality data, car seats from all over the world (regulated and nonregulated), inability to order seats outside of the UAE (limited distributors), six months where everyone lives inside due the heat and families with limited exposure to car seats. WHEW.

Each class has multiple nationalities. The training is daunting. It is taught in English (a second language for everyone) and students are learning new terminology like "thread" and "compartmentalization." Students in Qatar follow the same rigorous guidelines and requirements as in the United States.

To date, Qatar has more than 60 CPS technicians and four CPS technician instructors, who provide education throughout the region. More than 50 percent of the technicians are physicians and the other 50 percent are either physical therapists, occupational therapists, nurses or part of emergency medical services and educators. HITC is now self-sustaining and can operate with limited support from Safe Kids Worldwide. What an incredible accomplishment in only three years!

During my recent training, a man and his wife passed through the parking lot during a car seat installation. I noticed this man just staring at the students with a giant smile on his face. It turned out, he was from Washington State where he used to be a certified technician. He had left the United States six years ago to be a medic in the Middle East and was so excited to learn about the progress of HITC that he pledged to go through the certification training again in Qatar.

It is indeed a small world. See some photos.

Submitted by Alexis Kagiliery, Safe Kids Worldwide (Boynton Beach, Florida)

Size Wise Isn't Just for Carry-ons Anymore!

Will your car seat fit on an airplane? New ruling will make it easier for the consumer.

Families may have a car seat approved for use on aircraft but it may not may not fit in the airline seat. Many car seats are between 17 and 21 inches wide, too wide to secure in a narrow airline seat. The <u>FAA</u> recently released a ruling that will assist families in planning ahead and be comfortable in knowing that their car seat will fit by checking on the airline's website. The final rule requires air carriers to provide information online so passengers can check first and confirm that their child restraint will fit. Although some families may call their airline to find out about the dimensions of the seats, this ruling will make it easy to check online. Specifically, this final rule requires air carriers to make available on their websites the width of the narrowest and widest passenger seats in each class of service for each make, model and series of airplane used in passenger-carrying operations. The seat dimension will be measured from within the armrests in each class of operation; first class, economy, etc.

DATES: This rule is effective October 30, 2015. Compliance with this rule is required by February 29, 2016.

Additional Resources:

- <u>Disclosure of Seat Dimensions on Airplanes</u>
- FAA Parent Tips
- TSA Screening Traveling with Children

Submitted by Kim Herrmann, Safe Kids Worldwide (Ft. Myers, Florida)

What Do the Instructions Say? Using Your Resources to Assist a Family

Think back to Day One of your CPST Certification Course. How long was it before owners' manuals were mentioned? How many times did you read about manuals, look up answers in manuals or answer "check the manual"? Too many to count! What started in class, continues in the field.

CPS technicians may get tired of hearing "follow the instructions" but it is critical in this fast-paced ever-changing field. Home appliances, car seats and vehicles come with product manuals or operation guides. Often, these important documents are overlooked with the packaging and discarded, or considered advertising and totally ignored. These manufacturer guides are designed for the caregiver to get the most out of their product, knowing who to call if there are questions, and keep it in good running order for its full-intended lifecycle. No, I'm not selling a washing machine, but I think you get the idea. As technicians, we sell car seats in the sense that we want people to buy them and use them properly. Specifically, we sell safety and help the caregiver with their product, we need to use every available resource at our disposal as we share recommendations with the caregiver. To start with, check if the caregiver has registered their seat. You can ask them about the card that came with the seat and let them know about registering online.

The overview for car seats is looking over the labeling, which highlight basic information, and if additional information is needed you pull out the instructions. No instructions? Well, we have the Child Restraint Manufacturer's Instructions DVD that is a great resource to assist us in providing guidance to the caregiver. It is also easy to print out for a certification course. If English is the secondary language for the caregiver, then use a smart phone, and go to the manufacturer's website and open an installation video (a video is worth a million words). We also have the expertise of manufacturer customer service (many tech trained).

Use the skills you learned in class to help the caregiver use the seat properly. These areas are addressed in the car seat instructions:

- Selection
- Direction
- Harnessing
- Location
- Installation

Care and maintenance of the car seat is also important information to share with the caregiver. Point it out in the instructions.

It can't be emphasized enough to use the vehicle manual in conjunction with the car seat manual. Don't have the vehicle manual? The LATCH manual is a valuable resource with information about car seat and vehicle manufactures. You can also download vehicle manuals online if you want to use them in class. It is so important for technician candidates to learn early on the value of using instructions, it extends in the field. CPS Technicians are great community resources and need sound preparation in class and through technical updates to maintain and enhance their skills.

Technician Resources:

- <u>LATCH Manual</u>
- Child Restraint Manufacturer's Instructions

- Child-Restraint-Manufacturers List
- Safe Ride News Vehicle Manuals Online

Submitted by Kim Herrmann, Safe Kids Worldwide (Ft. Myers, Florida)

Auditor Alcove: Giving Thanks: Sit Back and Relax!

If you have never been a lead instructor and/or course administrator for a CPS Certification Course or the coordinator of a seat check event, you may not know just how much prep and planning goes on behind the scenes. It is easy and stress-free to be one of the techs or instructors from the team who shows up and everything has already been prepped and taken care of. With good planning, many of the potential mishaps have been prepared for and avoided. There is food, drinks, coffee and pens. But who actually does all of that?

If you are lucky, you have someone who is in charge of the behind-the-scenes prep: answering registration questions, handling food, location scouting, event planning, volunteer recruiting and appointment scheduling. The list goes on. If you do have that person, I encourage you to take a moment to tell them THANK YOU! It is a tough job and is often thankless. If you are feeling extra generous, you could even offer to handle one of the tasks for the next course or event, if they will let you!

Submitted by Jami Eklund, Safe Kids Worldwide (Massillon, Ohio)

Fact or Fiction: If a Change Has Been Made in CRS Manufacturer's Instructions it is Typically Retroactive.

FICTION. Never assume that when a change in instructions occurs that it is retroactive unless the manufacturer specifies that it is retroactive. For example, Graco stated that the handle could be in any locked position and was retroactive from 9/2012. There are some changes that may apply to particular models only. Follow your current models instructions. You may also contact the manufacturer's customer service representative to verify the instructions or consult the FAQs of the manufacturer online.

Learn more about the MACPS.

Submitted by MACPS: Manufacturers Alliance for Child Passenger Safety

Featured FAQ: Are seat checks audited?

The five required seat checks are approved online by the instructor or technician proxy. Their approval is all we need! If you are selected for a recertification audit, just send in proof of six CEUs earned.

Read the FAQ online.

Notes from the CPS Board: Getting to Know Your Board

Each month we feature a child passenger safety board member here in the CPS Express.

Joshua DeFisher (Raleigh, NC) GHSA Representative

- How long have you been a member of the board? I joined the Board in February 2014 and attended my first inperson board meeting the following July.
- How long have you been a technician/instructor? I received my CPS Certification at a class in Orange County, North Carolina in November 2011.
- Why did you decide to become a CPS advocate? My journey into the world of child passenger safety came about due to a career and family change. I was a fifth grade teacher when our first son was born. At that time, I switched careers and began working for the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program, where I became the Occupant Protection Program Manager. The CPS program in North Carolina was very strong way before I got there and I was able to fall into a fantastic community of instructors, technicians and advocates. I quickly realized the importance of Child Passenger Safety and the rest is history.
- Who taught your first certification course? I had an all-star instructor line up for my certification course. It included Bill Hall, Allan Buchanan, Suzanne Ledoyan, Kelly Ransdell and Sara Tilton.
- Advice for the field: Continue to grow. There will always be new information out there for you to find. Challenge yourself in the field. If you are up to date on your technical knowledge, then research best practices for communicating with parents & care-givers or leadership techniques. New challenges bring opportunity for growth..

- What are your hobbies: I really enjoy being a husband and father! Besides that, at 33, I have entered the world of fitness challenge and races. I joined a group of men who conduct free boot camp workouts at local parks (F3 Fitness, Fellowship & Faith) beginning at 5:45 a.m. and I completed my first Spartan Race in September 2015 (obstacle race).
- **Tell us about your family:** Erin is my wonderful bride and Caleb (4) and Gavin (3) are our two boys. We also have two golden labs (Sadie and Chloe). My wife is now 4 months pregnant with boy number 3 and we are very excited to meet him. Thank you for the work all of you do to keep my family and families across the country safe every day!

Just for Instructors: Teaching Hours Reminder

CPST Instructors need to earn at least 20 teaching hours each certification cycle to recertify. This includes at least 10 from a Certification Course. The other 10 can be earned teaching a certification course, renewal testing course or by mentoring an IC during a certification course.

Don't wait until the last minute to plan on earning your hours! Sometimes, even with the best plans, courses are cancelled and you might be short some of your 20 hours. If this happens, be sure your other requirements are entered (CEUs approved seat checks, community education). Then, well in advance of your certification expiration date, we have time to work on solving your problem. Email Safe Kids the details on how you will earn the rest of your hours, including the course ID(s) and confirmation that you will earn at least as many hours as are needed.

Information on calculating teaching hours is online and in the FAQs.

We appreciate all your hard work and dedication to the field!

CEU CORNER | Tor

This section provides information on nationally available continuing education opportunities. We are not able to include information on state or local conferences, training or other technical updates if they cannot be made available nationally. This information is provided as a resource only. Events and activities listed here are not endorsed by Safe Kids unless otherwise noted.

CPS Express CEU Corner Submissions: Please e-mail the necessary information (in the format below) to Kerry Chausmer.

Conferences

Conferences (includes pre-conference dates)

CPS Restraint Systems on School Buses National Training

Location: Houston, TX Date: November 2, 2015

CPS Restraint Systems on School Buses National Training

Location: Richmond, VA Date: November 6, 2015

CPS Restraint Systems on School Buses National Training

Location: Houston, TX Date: February 26, 2016

<u>Lifesavers Traffic Safety Conference</u> Location: Long Beach, California

Dates: April 3 – 5, 2016

Online Courses

A variety of webinars are available online and free of charge. Learn more

Upcoming Webinars

Live Webinars

Test your connection now! Go to http://bit.ly/testGTM and click on JOIN LIVE MEETING. If you have problems, you can talk with their customer support for assistance.

Can I get credit for watching a webinar with a group? Read more

Safe Kids and State Farm present:
 Car Seat Manufacturer Update: Britax and Doona Product Updates
 Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT
 REGISTRATION CLOSED/FULL. Look for the recorded webinar at www.cpsboard.org.

 Safe Kids and State Farm present: Recreational Vehicles & Child Occupants Wed, Dec 9, 2015 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT Register now

More webinars coming soon! Mid-month updates posted on Facebook.

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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Fax: 202-393-2072

Ideas and Article Submissions

Advocates and manufacturers are welcome to submit articles, or suggestions for articles, to the CPS Express!

Send your ideas and submissions to kchausmer@safekids.org

All submissions may be edited for content and length.

Program Partners







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