



JPMA Consumer Reports Car Seat Testing Statement

In an ongoing effort to promote the safe use of juvenile products; the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) developed the following statement regarding the recent report by Consumer Reports on its new child restraint system testing protocol and ratings.

Child restraint systems (CRS) also known as car seats, manufactured by our members have a proven track record in protecting child passengers in real world crash situations. Our member manufacturers comply with the strict standards and federal regulations determined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Each manufacturer designs, tests and manufactures car seats to these regulations to ensure product integrity, protection and safety for children. CRS are a vital component in the overall safety system of a vehicle for advanced protection when transporting children.

As advocates ourselves, JPMA and its members recognize the importance of educating and informing consumers in their purchasing decisions. Our members welcome the opportunity to learn from different credible testing protocols and methodology to ensure the advancement of safely transporting children. We support the efforts by Consumer Reports to provide additional information to educate and assist consumers in selecting the CRS that is right for them.

It is however important for consumers to understand that Consumer Reports test protocol is unique to that independent non-government organization and is not a determining factor in CRS manufacturing nor is it required by any set of laws or regulations. Our CRS manufacturers offering children's car seats for use in the United States must meet or exceed those regulations clearly defined and determined by NHTSA's FMVSS213.

JPMA CRS member manufacturers take the time to educate consumers about vehicle safety, product use as well as best practices for all car seat installation and use. JPMA members are committed to the sharing of information and the continued working relationship with NHTSA and other stakeholders to further design, innovation and protection for all child passengers.

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