

safe ride news

publications

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Press Release

Handbook Released on Transporting Children in Safety Restraints on School Buses

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A new handbook focusing on the practicalities of choosing and using child safety restraint systems (CSRS) for school buses has just been published by Safe Ride News Publications. This handbook was written in response to the growing awareness of the safety needs of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and children with special needs when transported in school buses and multi-function school activity vehicles. It will be particularly useful for school districts and school bus contractors. It also is relevant to the needs of parent-teacher associations, childcare and Head Start agencies, and other organizations involved in transporting preschoolers and youth.

The School Bus Safety Handbook: Choosing and Using Child Safety Restraint Systems was written by experienced child passenger safety technicians/instructors Deborah Davis Stewart, Linda White, and Mary Anderson with the assistance of school transportation safety experts. It covers the selection and correct use of CSRS designed especially for use on school buses as well as conventional and special needs CSRS, and wheelchairs. It also details the variety of school bus anchorage systems for installing those CSRS and the specifications for new buses that will facilitate CSRS use.

The handbook is designed to be compatible with and supportive of the 2008 curriculum on child safety restraints on school buses developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. It enhances that course by serving as a concise reference and detailing current products and usage details but also can be used by people who have not taken that class.

The handbook is divided into two parts. School Transportation managers, contractors, and district administrators will find the first part of the book directed to their need to select CSRS to fit on the buses they have and to order new buses with features that allow convenient installation of CSRS. The second part is written for bus drivers, aides, and others in the school transportation system, who have day-to-day responsibility for the correct installation and use of CSRS.

Safe Ride News Publications has an established record of producing nationally recognized, independent child passenger safety publications. Publications of note are its bimonthly newsletter, *Safe Ride News*, which includes regular reporting on school bus occupant protection developments, and *The LATCH Manual*, which now is in its sixth edition. The lead author, Deborah Davis Stewart, has been involved in school bus safety issues since the 1970s.

For additional information, including the table of contents and an order form, go to www.saferidenews.com or contact nancy@saferidenews.com.