

Major Recall of Dorel Juvenile Group Baby Car Seats

by John Demas on 02/17/11 at 12:37 pm

A consumer advisory issued by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) states that nearly 800,000 Dorel Juvenile Group (DJG) baby car seats are **now under recall**. According to the NTHSA Web site, all of these products were manufactured by the Dorel Consumer Group between May 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009. These car seat models include the infant, convertible and booster child restraint systems and were sold as "stand-alone" seats or with strollers.

Nature of the Risks to Children

Children are most at risk when these car seats' harness lock-and-release buttons fail to return to their proper locked positions. Once those buttons malfunction, the harness adjustment straps can slide back through the adjusters, creating looser-fitting harnesses (if the children are constantly moving about.) When children's car seat harnesses aren't snugly fitted to them, they have much higher chances of suffering serious crash injuries.

Specific Model Seat Numbers and Repair Information

All of the recalled child car seats were sold under such brand names as **Maxi-Cosi**, **Cosco and Safety First**. (*The specific model numbers are listed on this page*). The Dorel Juvenile Group has agreed to help consumers repair these faulty locking mechanisms by providing them with tubes of lubricant that can be applied to them. Labels will also be provided so that consumers can attach them to the car seats once they've been repaired. Although many caregivers may want to first repair these car seats before using them any further, others can keep using them (prior to making the necessary repairs) as long as they make sure that the harness mechanisms remain in locked positions when necessary. Pulling on the shoulder harnesses can help determine how secure the locks are fastened. (Consumers can contact the Dorel Juvenile Group for more information by visiting the company's Web site or by calling 1-866-623-3139).

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