



NATIONAL
**CHILD PASSENGER
SAFETY BOARD**

A program managed by the National Safety Council

rear facing • forward facing • booster seat • seat belts

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Charlie Vits Named to National Child Passenger Safety Board

Itasca, IL – The National Child Passenger Safety Board (NCPSB) is proud to announce the appointment of Charlie Vits to the Board, as At-Large Representative for a three-year term from January 2017-2019. After beginning his career as a mechanical engineer for Ford and Chrysler in safety and advanced body design, he went on to manage assembly programs for several major automotive suppliers. He joined IMMI in 1998, a manufacturer of vehicle occupant protection systems where he currently serves as the Market Development Manager.

“We are excited for Charlie to join the National CPS Board and lend his experience in school transportation for advancing the mission of saving lives and preventing injuries,” said Amy Artuso, NCPSB secretariat and program manager at the National Safety Council.

Upon joining IMMI, Vits was given the responsibility of developing a school bus seat with lap and shoulder belts. In 2003, two new products were released, a newer lap shoulder belt equipped school bus seat that included an integrated child seat, and a new school bus specific add-on child restraint.

“The responsibility for these products drew me into a new passion for child passenger safety. My involvement in the application of child passenger safety in school transportation has been especially rewarding because of the great need within the industry for proper understanding and training,” said Vits.

Vits’ contributions to the field include participation with industry training materials such as the previous and current versions of the *Child Passenger Safety Restraint Systems on School Buses National Training* and the *Safe Ride News School Bus Safety Handbook*. His proximity to Riley Hospital for Children at the Indiana University School of Medicine and their Automotive Safety Program has provided opportunities for collaboration. In 2010, the Automotive Safety Program at Riley Hospital

awarded Vits the 14th annual *Child Safety Advocate Award* for his work with passenger safety on school busses.

“Most important”, said Vits, “I can reflect on the fact that the work I have been involved in has made a difference in the protection of many of our youngest traveling students.”

For more about each new Board member, please visit www.cpsboard.org/learn-about-the-board

About the National Child Passenger Safety Board

The National Child Passenger Safety Board, managed by the National Safety Council, seeks to maintain the quality and integrity of the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program. The program is used to train and certify child passenger safety technicians and instructors. For more information about child passenger safety or the National CPS Board, please visit the Board’s website at www.cpsboard.org.

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