



Raising standards for consumers



Press Release

Final phase of R129 adopted: safer child seats, safer for children!

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ANEC welcomes adoption of the final phase of Regulation 129 on enhanced child restraint systems by UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP 29).

The third phase of Regulation 129 addresses belted universal baby/toddler enhanced child-restraint systems. After today's approval, it is expected to enter into force in February 2019.

Ronald Vroman, who has been representing ANEC and Consumers International (CI) from the outset in the expert group that developed Regulation 129, commented, "The adoption of this 3rd phase marks the end of the development of Regulation 129. It replaces the outdated Regulation 44, whose shortcomings were raised by ANEC 10 years ago. This led to the decision to stop further modifying the patchwork that R44 had become and start a new Regulation from scratch. ANEC is happy with this new Regulation that not only protects children better, but makes child seats easier to use".

Stephen Russell, ANEC Secretary-General, added, "Now that all phases of the new Regulation on enhanced child restraint systems are adopted, it is important that the old R44 standard is phased out as early as possible. Since 1 September 2017, integral Isofix seats are no longer approved under R44, and this will be the case also for non-integral Group 2 and Group 2/3 seats from 1 September 2019. Existing R44 products will be available to be sold for a little longer, but we urge consumers to buy only child seats that comply with the newer and more rigorous R129 which benefits from far safer rearward-facing travel for children to the age of 15 months, a reduced risk of misuse, better compatibility with car models and side-impact protection".

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About ANEC

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 34 countries.

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



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