



One-pager on a new regulation on child-restraint systems (the “I-size Regulation”)

What is the I-size Regulation?

The new I-size Regulation applies in its Phase 1 (3 Phases in total) to Integral Universal ISOFIX child restraint systems for child occupants of power driven vehicles. It is the response of experts in UNECE to criticisms of the existing regulation for child car-seats from both Member States and consumers. Currently, all child restraint systems (CRS) on the market have to comply with regulation UN-ECE R44. This regulation does not have side impact test, allows forward facing transport of children from 9 kg on and is difficult to understand as classification is based on the mass of the child and characteristics of the car it is placed in (clarification: checking of vehicle lists for semi-universal, space requirements etc.)

What are the advantages of the I-size Regulation?

CRS that are produced based on the new I-size Regulation will provide the following major improvements for the transportation of children in cars:

- Reduce misuse
- Requires rearward-facing transport until the child is 15 months of age
- Simplified classification based on stature of the child, not mass
- Provide side impact protection
- Better compatibility car-CRS: I-size CRS will fit in any I-size ready seating position in a car.

Will CRS approved under the current ECE R44 be banned from the market with the implementation of the I-size Regulation in 2013?

No. During the transitional period, it will be possible for parents to still buy an old style R44 CRS. Once all 3 Phases of the new I-size Regulation are finalised, old style CRS will disappear from the market.

Will the I-size CRS fit in all cars?

The manufacturers can already choose whether to design cars to be I-size ready. If a car's seating position is I-size ready, the consumer can use an I-size CRS without a need to check vehicle lists. Besides the I-size ready cars, it will be possible to install the new I-size CRS in older vehicles with ISOfIX under certain conditions (e.g. ability to accommodate old style semi universal CRS).



Consumers/parents should look for the I-size label, which must be present on the child restraint system and the I-size ready car.

ANEC in Brief

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, representing and defending consumer interests in the development of technical standards, in the application of certification schemes to standards, and in the creation or revision of legislation on products and services. ANEC receives funding from the European Commission's DG SANCO and the EFTA Secretariat.