The Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association Statement on Flame Retardant Chemicals in Child Restraint Systems

Child restraints provide the most effective and advanced means of protecting child passengers. These products save lives and keep children safe. Parents can be assured that they should continue to be used, as required by law.

On behalf of our members, the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) monitors developing regulatory activity and works proactively to ensure the safety of our member’s products. Our members have established internal policies prohibiting accessible potentially toxic brominated compounds and those "Tris" compounds that have been identified as potentially toxic. It is important to note that the category of flame retardants is large with many sub compounds. Claims that children are being exposed to toxic levels of hazardous substances are misleading, misguided and inappropriate.

JPMA was the first of the stakeholder groups to work with members of Congress and regulators at NHTSA to change the current mandated flammability requirement so that flame retardant chemicals would no longer be needed. We believe consumers should have choices in the types of materials they use. Strict federal flammability requirements limit options. The conversations are ongoing and currently under review and consideration.

Our members take great care in meeting and exceeding the strict federal and state flammability requirements for juvenile products and whenever possible work to find ways to meet regulatory mandates and manufacture products as naturally as possible. As additional credible information is presented or regulatory changes take place, our members will evaluate and incorporate them into their processes so manufacturers can continue to provide the highest protection available for families and children.

Contact:

Julie Vallese - Managing Director of Public & Government Affairs
jvallese@jpma.org
240-912-6957