



News Release

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SafeGuard STAR Contributes to the Safety of Child in Texas School Bus Accident

Copperas Cove, Texas – April 24, 2009 – A Copperas Cove ISD school bus just beginning its early-morning route, carrying a student and an aide, overturned on its side yesterday after it was struck by a Dodge pick-up truck. Both occupants were wearing seat belts, the aide restrained in a lap-shoulder belt and the student restrained in a SafeGuard STAR restraint. School officials believe the safety restraints helped the occupants avoid serious injury.

Gary Elliott, director of transportation at Copperas Cove ISD, said the impact caused the bus to veer into a ditch and overturn. Passing motorists immediately stopped to assist, and Elliott arrived on the scene soon after.

“My little man was just hanging there in his seat,” Elliott recalled. “You could hear the driver saying ‘I’m fine! I’m fine!’”

Elliott said he was pleased with the STAR restraint’s performance and how it contributed to the positive outcome of the accident. “That bus went for a ride, and the STAR did exactly what it was meant to do,” he said. “It’s a good product; you made believers out of all of us with that STAR seat.”

Elliott said the parents took the child to a pediatric center for a check up but said no injuries were reported, and the child was released. “I called the mother afterward to check up on the student,” Elliott said. “She said he came home, took a nap, ate some macaroni and cheese, and was running up and down the street, playing.”

The SafeGuard STAR is a five-point restraint system that easily adjusts to provide a proper, secure fit for children 25 to 65 pounds. With the dual cam wrap system, the STAR installs directly onto a 39-inch bus seat. For more information about the SafeGuard STAR, visit www.safeguardseat.com or call 877.447.2305.

About SafeGuard

SafeGuard has been the industry leader in child and bus passenger protection for more than 30 years. Utilizing a modern crash-test facility, sophisticated engineering and advanced manufacturing operations, SafeGuard develops and supplies innovative, proven restraint systems and seating solutions for customers worldwide.

About IMMI

SafeGuard is a division of IMMI, a world leader in occupant protection products, with headquarters in Westfield, Ind. The company produces hundreds of products for various sectors, including the commercial vehicle, emergency vehicle, child seating and school bus industries. A well-established presence with facilities in the United States, Mexico and the United Kingdom, IMMI serves customers throughout the world.

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