

Transmitted by the expert from European
Commission

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DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 44
(Child restraints)

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from European Commission in order to restrict the use of non-integral child restraint systems to certain mass groups of CRS.

Note: This document is distributed to the Experts on Passive Safety only.

A. PROPOSAL

Section 6. General specifications:

(a) in the table ‘Possible configurations for approval groups/categories’, replace the sixth row in the body of the table by the following:

<u>‘Forward facing (non-integral)’</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>Forward facing (non-integral – see point 6.1.12.)</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A’</u>

(b) add two new paragraphs 6.1.11. and 6.1.12 to read:

‘6.1.11. Child restraint systems of groups 0 and 0+, with the exception of carry cots as defined in point 2.4.1., shall belong to the integral class.’

6.1.12. Child restraint systems of group I shall belong to the integral class unless they are fitted with an impact shield as defined in point 2.7.’

Section 17. Transitional provisions: add a new paragraph 17.14. to read:

‘17.14. As from three months from the date of entry into force of [supplement X to the 04 series of amendments] approvals granted in accordance with the 03 or 04 series of amendments for child restraint systems belonging to groups 0, 0+ and I which do not comply with the provisions of paragraph 6.1.11. or 6.1.12. shall cease to be valid.’

A. PROPOSITION

Section 6. Spécifications générales:

(a) dans le tableau ‘Configurations possibles pour l’approbation - Tableau des groupes par catégorie’, remplacer la sixième ligne dans le corps du tableau par ce qui suit :

<u>‘Face à la route (non intégral)’</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>Face à la route (non intégral - voir point 6.1.12.)</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A’</u>

(b) ajouter deux nouveaux paragraphes 6.1.11. et 6.1.12 :

‘6.1.11. Les dispositifs de retenue pour enfants des groupes 0, 0 + et I, à l'exception des nacelles visées au point 2.4.1., doivent appartenir à la classe intégrale.

6.1.12. Les dispositif de retenue pour enfants du groupe I doivent appartenir à la classe intégrale à moins d'être équipés d'un bouclier d'impact tel que défini au point 2.7.’

Section 17. Dispositions provisoires: *ajouter un nouveau paragraphe 17.14. :*

‘17.14. Au terme d'un délai de trois mois après la date d'entrée en vigueur du [complément X à la série 04 d'amendements], les réceptions accordées conformément aux séries d'amendements 03 ou 04 pour des dispositifs de retenue pour enfants appartenant aux groupes 0, 0+ et I qui ne répondent pas aux dispositions des paragraphes 6.11.1. ou 6.11.2. perdent leur validité.’

B. JUSTIFICATION

Recent campaigns of testing performed under request from consumer protection agencies have shown that the current text of Regulation 44 allows the same child seat belonging to the universal and semi-universal categories to be approved simultaneously for mass groups I, II and III without it being of the integral class.

In the seats concerned, the child is restrained directly by means of the safety belt provided for the adult occupant. Such a design does not allow babies and small children between 9 and 18 kg (mass group I - i.e. aged between about 6 months and 3 ½ years) to be secured safely. Nor does it prevent the safety belt from coming into contact with the weakest parts of the child's body.

Therefore type-approval for such non-integral child seats should be restricted to mass groups II and III only. Approvals already granted in accordance with the 'previous' legislation should cease to be valid after a reasonable period of time.

It must be reminded that Point 6.1.10. makes provisions for child seats of mass group 0 and 0+ (up to **13** kg) to be used only in a rearwards facing position. From a practical point of view such seats have to be of the integral class. It is therefore proposed, with a view to providing the optimum protection to all babies and small children under **18** kg (3 ½ years) that all child seats intended for these small children belong to the integral class.

Two exceptions are provided: one for carry cots and one for non-integral child restraint systems fitted with an impact shield.

Regulation 44 should therefore be amended as suggested above.
