

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS
Transportation & Programs for Exceptional Children

Procedures for Using Safety Vests on the Bus



SAFETY VEST

A safety vest is a child safety restraint system that enables preschool students and students with disabilities to remain seated on the bus seat during transport. A safety vest is also useful for students who inappropriately unbuckle front buckles on other child restraints. The decision to use a safety vest for school age children is an IEP/504 team decision and should be documented in the student's IEP/504 Plan. Safety Vests must meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213.

SIZING & ADJUSTMENT OF THE SAFETY VEST

Safety vests are designed for children and adults who weigh between 20-168 lbs.

Safety vest sizes are based on the individual's waist size.

The vests are adjustable with 3 zipper sizes to accommodate growth.

X- Small (19-23" waist)	Small (25-30" waist)	Medium (32-37" waist)	Large (37-42" waist)
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Students should be wearing their safety vests prior to getting on the bus (i.e. apply vest at home in the morning and at school in the afternoon). The safety vest must be put on so that the zipper is located in the back with the hip strap low around the student's lap. The vest should be put on under winter coats. The shoulder straps are adjustable and may be lengthened or shortened to properly fit the student. The shoulder webbing must be 'back threaded' into the black webbing guides to prevent the webbing from slipping. X-small, small, and medium safety vests have additional straps between the legs that are adjustable to help keep the safety vest properly positioned at the student's hips. Do not remove the webbing guides or the buckles on the vests.

The safety vest must be snug and applied correctly in order to provide a safe and secure bus ride.

INSTALLING THE SAFETY VEST SEAT MOUNT

- Install the safety vest seat mount by wrapping the mount securely around the bus seat back.
- Position the push button closure facing the seat back to prevent accidental release.
- Position the non-adjustable webbing snap hooks at the bottom of the seat.
- Position the adjustable webbing snap hooks at the top of the seat back.

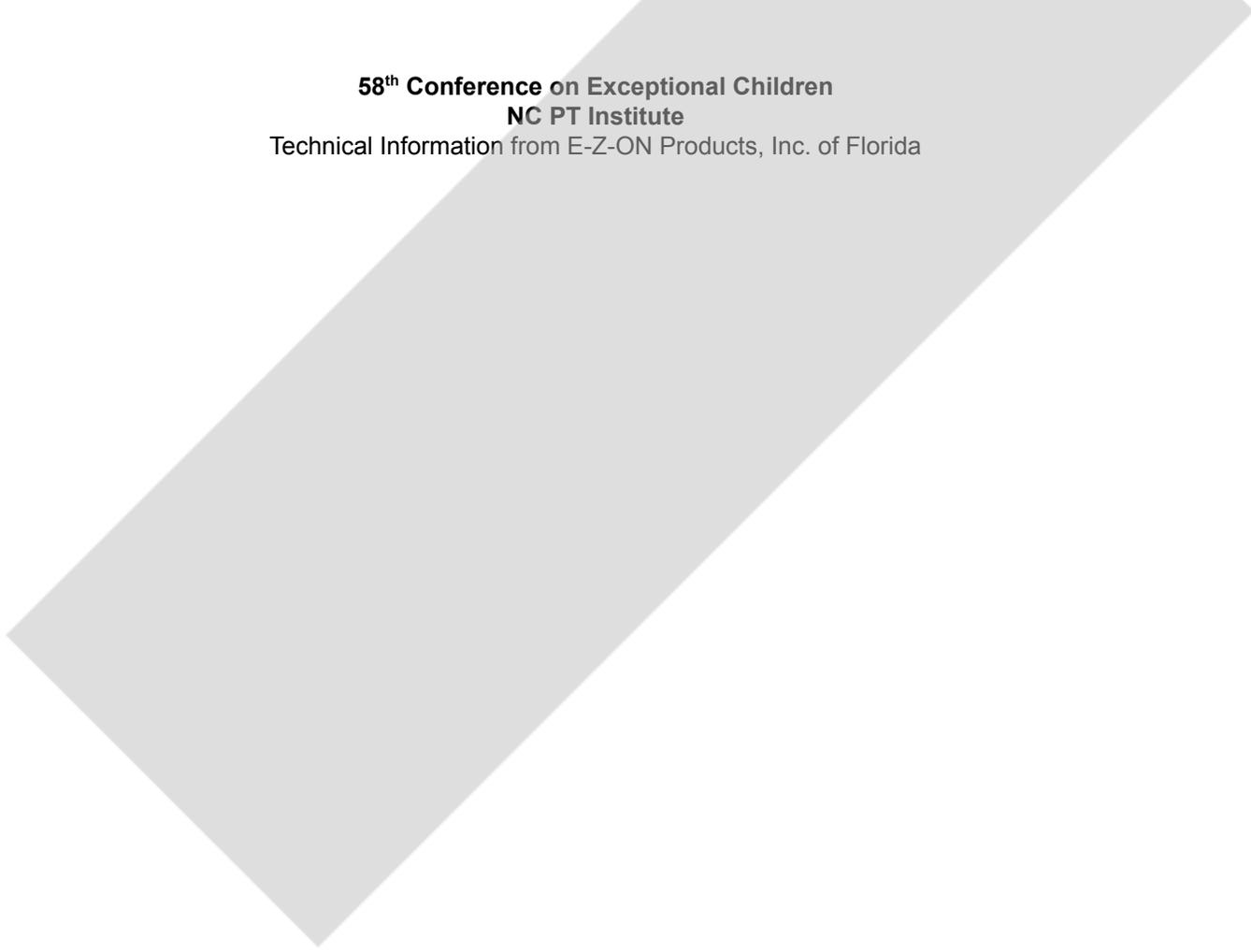
SECURING THE SAFETY VEST & STUDENT ON THE BUS SEAT

- Position the student on the seat with his/her hips and shoulders touching the seat back.
- Attach the seat mount hip snap hooks to the D-Rings on the vest at student's hips.
- Adjust the webbing on the shoulder snap hooks on the seat mount to the height of the student, if needed.
- 'Back thread' the webbing in the black webbing guides to prevent the webbing from slipping.
- Attach the shoulder snap hooks to the metal slots on the vest at the student's shoulders.
- Check all hooks, webbing, and buckles to ensure they are secure and snug.

The bus seat behind a student utilizing a safety vest should be unoccupied or be occupied by a student using a child safety restraint system.

ALWAYS CHECK THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS

58th Conference on Exceptional Children
NC PT Institute
Technical Information from E-Z-ON Products, Inc. of Florida



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