



SAFER SUCCESS STORY: Child safety research

“Our SAFER front-line research and global reputation helps us act with a stronger voice internationally, protecting children in cars around the whole world.”

*Lotta Jakobsson, Senior Technical Leader, Injury Prevention, Volvo Cars
Adjunct Professor, Vehicle Safety, Chalmers*

- **Product on market: Input to comfort support cover for integrated booster cushion**
- **Project results have contributed to EuroNCAP introducing rating of the rear seat**
- **Autoliv experiences a great demand from almost all customers who want products which decrease the injury risk for rear seat passengers**
- **Influence on global child safety agenda, incl. ISO, UN ECE update**

The aim is to reduce child car passenger injuries and fatalities by research and knowledge sharing that focus real world safety needs. Sweden has a long history in child safety and this program has, and shall continue to, ensure that Sweden remains a hub for child safety research, contributing to setting the global agenda of child safety.

Benefit to the project partners and impact on society:

- Perceived as world leading in the field, frequently requested as lecturers
- Significant contribution to national child safety guidelines (eg. NTF, Trygg Trafikk)
- Child restraint developments for increased usage and safety; including significant influence on ECE regulation
- Creation of new product ideas which Autoliv are working on internally and also together with Volvo Cars
- Initiated and co-organized first international child safety conference in China
- An extensive global network with eminent child safety researchers
- New products will be implemented in cars on the market within a few years and the effect from these will then be visible in statistics on the number of children injured in traffic

The approach is based on five pillars:

Perform research based on real world needs, eg. research on pre-crash child behaviour relevant for protection; Continuously scan and contribute to the global dialogue, including standards, regulation, rating and consumer information; Gather skilled SAFER partners, invite the best child safety researchers in the world and on a win-win basis share experiences and identify future focus areas and actions; Funding principles: SAFER money used for pre-study, international workshops and national child safety seminars; Flexible time plan and content, to adapt to needs in the national/international current topics, eg. timely presentation at the GRSP significantly influencing the upcoming regulation on boosters (UN ECER129 phase 2).

Measurable results:

- Two Ph.D., one Lic.Eng.
- Numerous publications and presentations
- Kristy Arbogast - Chalmers Honorary Doctor 2014
- Four international workshops (2009, 2011, 2013, 2015)
- Three open seminars (2009, 2013, 2015)