



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

InFO

Information for Operators

InFO 11006
DATE: 2/28/11

Flight Standards Service
Washington, DC

http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/info

An InFO contains valuable information for operators that should help them meet certain administrative, regulatory, or operational requirements with relatively low urgency or impact on safety.

Subject: Inflatable Seat Belts

Purpose: This InFO encourages air carriers to brief passengers and crewmembers on the presence of inflatable seat belts.

Background Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) parts 91, § 91.519; 121, § 121.571; and 135, § 135.117 require a seat belt secured about each passenger during specified phases of flight, and require the air carrier to ensure that the passengers are knowledgeable on the use of seat belts.

Discussion: To support compliance with these 14 CFR sections regarding the use of inflatable seat belts, assigned crewmembers should conduct briefings about the inflatable seat belt and /or direct passengers to the briefing card for additional information. Important information that should be relayed includes:

- A.** Inflatable seat belts are deactivated when the seat belt is unbuckled, or:
- When the seat occupant uses a seat belt extender or
 - When a seat belt extender is used in conjunction with a child safety seat.

Note: A seat belt extender should always be used with a child safety seat. Air carriers should anticipate and prepare for flights with above average use of child restraint systems (CRS), such as flight to/from family vacation destinations, with a sufficient number of seat belt extenders. There is a warning label on these seat belts that states the following:

	<p>WARNING - AIRBAG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When installing a child seat, always use approved belt extender to DEACTIVATE AIRBAG. • Not using belt extender with a child seat can result in DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY. • Refer to CREW MEMBER for proper use.
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- B.** The inflatable seat belt is not operationally restricted by passengers with lap-held children. However, the manufacturer of the inflatable seat belt **does not recommend allowing lap-held children with any type of restraint system**. Any restrictions on lap-held children are strictly the responsibility of the aircraft operator.

- C.** The system works with the passenger in the brace positions illustrated in AC 121-24C, Passenger Safety Information Briefing and Briefing Cards.

Recommended Action: Air Carriers should include instructions and procedures regarding inflatable seat belts in the crewmember manuals so that assigned personnel (pilots or flight attendants as appropriate) can adequately perform their assigned tasks. Directors of safety, crewmembers, training managers, directors of maintenance and aircraft mechanics, should be aware of the safety issues and mitigations discussed in this InFO.

Contact: Questions or comments concerning this InFO can be directed to DK. Deaderick, Air Carrier Operations Branch, AFS-220 at (202) 267-8166.