



Mike James



Taking a career in Mechanical Engineering and making a huge difference is what Mike has been doing since 1987. While living in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1987 and working for a contractor supporting Department of Defense work, he took his passion for cycling and began giving safety presentations at schools, PTA's and like organizations. Mike moved to Huntsville, Alabama in 1989, and continued to teach and promote safety education in and around Northern Alabama.

Mike continued his safety work with parents and children, and in 1994 headed up the Huntsville Area SAFE Kids coalition. In an effort to make a bigger impact, he started working to properly secure children in vehicles before the certification process had even been considered. Mike had transitioned from engineering to businessman and was then owner/operator of an auto repair facility. This allowed the flexibility to teach classes about Child Passenger Safety to parents and caregivers.

Mike opened the auto repair facility to parents and caregivers to give them a place to get answers about properly restraining their children while in a motor vehicle and as a result of this community service, he received the "Public Service" award from NHTSA at the 1998 Lifesavers conference. He went to the Child Passenger Safety Technician certification training in Fort Worth, Texas in 1998 and upon completion, immediately travelled to Charlotte, North Carolina for Instructor certification training.

Mike has had a hand in practically every training held in Alabama since becoming certified and was the state coordinator for Child Passenger Safety for 14+ years. During those years, Alabama averaged between 12 and 20 CPS classes per year. The statewide coverage of certified CPS help (Technicians or Instructors) went from a few technicians to a technician within 25 miles of any parent or caregiver. For many years, Mike designed and developed an update curriculum used to keep technicians up-to-date on technology and changes in the Child Passenger Safety field.

Mike was one of the founding members of KIDZINMOTION, The National Child Passenger Safety conference. Mike had previously done presentations at state, regional and national conferences and while with KIDZINMOTION, the impact of Child Passenger Safety grew to an international push to save children worldwide.

Mike has consulted with auto manufacturers and child restraint manufacturers and has been an expert witness in several legal cases involving children, vehicles and child restraints.

