



Pre-evaluation Rating Guidelines

Pre-evaluation ratings are independent ratings of child seat(s) that follow the same guidelines of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Child Safety Seat Ease of Use (EOU) Rating Program. All pre-evaluation ratings will be conducted using identical forms as the NHTSA EOU rating forms to evaluate child seat(s) on securing the child, vehicle installation features, labeling, and instructions. All pre-evaluation ratings will be conducted at the Alpha Tech Headquarters in Springfield, VA.

- For pre-evaluation ratings, CRS manufacturers must supply the child seat(s) for rating. Please have the child seat(s) delivered to:

Alpha Technology Associate, Inc.¹
6315 Backlick Road, Suite 300
Springfield, VA 22150
Attn: Steven Kim

- For pre-evaluation ratings, four (4) qualified technicians will evaluate each requested child seat. There will be two groups of two conducting each rating. The ratings will follow the same procedures, with the same rating forms, used in the NHTSA EOU program. The evaluating and rating procedures will be held to the same standards required in the NHTSA EOU program.
- A designated program manager will oversee all operations and that all rules and regulations requirements are met.
- Alpha Tech will not disclose NHTSA EOU program rating results to any CRS manufacturers and vice versa.
- There will be absolutely no involvement of government personnel or government contractors who are currently participating in the NHTSA EOU program.
- All ratings will be kept confidential. Each evaluator must sign a confidentiality agreement before conducting any rating(s).
- The release of the pre-evaluation rating results will be provided only to the designated POC of the CRS manufacturer.

¹ CRS(s) will be inventoried and stored at this location. CRS manufacturers may request the return of the CRS(s) at any time.

- Although the same standards and procedures will be implemented, Alpha Tech cannot guarantee matching results with the NHTSA EOU program. Alpha Tech does not guarantee making any of the recommended changes will lead to an improved NHTSA EOU rating score.

- There are two options under Deliverables. *Option 1* includes the pre-evaluation rating results on a CD in PDF form. *Option 2* includes the pre-evaluation rating results plus a post evaluation report of the child seat(s) and additional requested support.