Foreword

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has a legislative mandate under Title 49 of the United States Code, Chapter 301, Motor Vehicle Safety, to issue Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and Regulations to which manufacturers of motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment must conform and certify compliance. FMVSS 209, Seat Belt Assemblies, was the first standard to become effective on March 1, 1967. A number of FMVSS became effective for vehicles manufactured on and after January 1, 1968. Subsequently, other FMVSS have been issued. For instance, NHTSA has issued seven new FMVSS and has amended six FMVSS and two consumer information regulations and requirements since this booklet was revised in March 1999. New standards and amendments to existing standards are published in the Federal Register.

These Federal safety standards are regulations written in terms of minimum safety performance requirements for motor vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment. These requirements are specified in such a manner that the public is protected against unreasonable risk of crashes occurring as a result of the design, construction, or performance of motor vehicles and is also protected against unreasonable risk of death or injury in the event crashes do occur.

This booklet lists the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards that were in effect as of October 2003, and provides a brief summary of each safety standard. It also provides similar information on other Federal consumer information regulations and requirements.

Title 49: Chapter V - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Department of Transportation

Part 571
Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards

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