

# Safe and easy

To improve safety on board campers, CTA presents the new Isofix fastening systems suitable for R14-certified safety belt structures, but which also come equipped with new R17- and R25-certified headrests.

Words Andrea Cattaneo



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Introducing the new structures compatible with Isofix fastening systems and which are R14-certified. With the Isofix fastening system, Italian company CTA continues to upgrade its flagship product, the safety belt fastening structure. To refer to it as a product is somewhat of an understatement though, because CTA offers a broad range of safety belt solutions that will aptly meet the needs of any manufacturer. The European market is increasingly veering towards automobile solutions, both in terms of comfort and safety on board. And that is also the direction that Isofix fastening systems for children's safety belts have taken, by providing a solution for fastening the child seat to the rear sofa of the camper that is practical, fast and safe. A special feature of CTA's Isofix is the option of selling it as an aftermarket solution. If appropriately configured by the manufacturer, the system, besides the possibility of installing it as an original equipment item, can also be installed on vehicles post-production. It therefore can be included in the list of optional accessories and sold as an aftermarket solution. The Isofix system by CTA is compatible with all the safety belt structures of the company's line

of child seat solutions, besides all those marketed by other manufacturers. The system is modular, incredibly flexible, simple to install and ultra-light.

"It's a system developed to fit our line of safety belts," says Dario Bellezze, CTA's Managing Director, "and can be installed as an original equipment item, but for the manufacturer and end user, what makes it particularly interesting is the possibility of purchasing it as an optional accessory. It's a modular and light system that is easy to use. It adapts to universal- and semi-universal-type I-size child seats. The seat is fastened in three points: the two Isofix connectors and a third point that



## Company Profile

A leader of the European recreational vehicle components market and boasting more than 40 years of experience, CTA designs and builds innovative solutions with the aim of improving safety and the comfort perceived inside the vehicle. The range of products includes: structures for safety belts, swivel plates for seats, TV/tablet brackets, ladders and luggage racks, comfort accessories for seats, all strictly Made in Italy. Some of the undisputed strengths of CTA branded products include versatility, reliability and light weight. CTA was the first manufacturer of anchoring structures for safety belts weighing just 12.5 kg, a generous 40% less than the lightest models available on the market. Today, it boasts an extensive range of structures which weigh just 8.5 kg for specific types of vehicles. These results were achieved thanks to ongoing investment in R&D, in the selection of innovative high-strength materials with increasingly low weights, and their use in the design of high-performance solutions, that are easy to install and simple to use. Quality, experience, creativity and staying constantly up-to-date, combined with passion and industry-specific skills allow CTA to partner with major European Original Equipment Manufacturers, with whom it devises customised projects that take into account all construction requirements, and provides technical support throughout every step of the development and launch of the product.

Great variety of choice for structures, all homologated in R-14



Isofix anchorages + 3rd point (choice between support leg and upper belt)



can be either the support leg or the upper belt. It's an extremely flexible system that improves safety on board and the camper's overall accessibility".

### New headrests

Another trendy item lately is the headrest: a special metal element can be built into the structure's core unit, adjusting it to fit the headrest. This added feature has been approved by certifying organisation TUV, with adaptability to several headrest shapes and a variety of fastening systems. Headrests fastened to the safety belt structure can be R17-certified, with a vast range of headrest shapes available. For the models that are R25-certified, instead, the headrest is fastened to the wall behind the sofa. This solution offers a choice from three headrest models.

The safety belt structures to which the Isofix connectors can be fastened and the headrests are designed and approved for their assembly on the chasses of Fiat Ducato and

Renault Master vans but are also compatible with other mechanical vehicle frames. The company's products can be installed both on frames equipped with a driver's cab and on van bodies. As OE items, the safety belt structures are currently supplied to a variety of manufacturers around Europe that belong to the Trigano Groupe and Erwin Hymmer Group. Originally intended for the European market, the structures can also be sold on other markets where Fiat Ducato vans are manufactured and exported.

With the introduction of these new products, CTA reaffirms its leadership in Europe in the field of safety belt structures intended for RVs. For more than 30 years now, the company based in Rome has time and again proven its commitment in this particular market segment and can therefore boast considerable experience not just as an OEM, but also when it comes to filing the paperwork to obtain product certifications. The range of safety belt fastening solutions has been recently modified with a focus on increasing

their lightness. As is well-known, saving on weight, even just by a few hundred grams, is essential in the European market to keep up with the competition. In order to make the structures lighter, high-durability last generation metals are used, but the initial design and type of machining, which relies on special cutting, bending and soldering methods, are just as important.

Headrests homologated in R-17

