

CMS and CMR 2016

CMS and CMR 2016 are joint standards issued in 2016 by FIA and Snell for children's motorsport use. At this time Snell and FIA are considering an update to the joint standards with minor changes. As soon as the draft and finalized new standards are available, Snell Foundation will make it publically available with effective dates and implementation details.

Since 2016 helmet manufacturers have been continuously making new CMS and CMR helmets for the market with a unique Snell certification label inside each helmet. Today Snell monitors the production volume of these CMS and CMR 2016 helmets by requesting quarterly reports of production and the use of serialized Snell certification labels. If any helmet user or race sanctioning body is concerned about the aging effect or protective performance of helmets with the CMS and CMR 2016 labels, we recommend to check the manufacturing date.

All Snell Standards include the year that the standard takes effect. When a specific standard is updated and reissued, all certified helmet models must first be tested for certification and retested randomly throughout their production life for compliance.



Visit to Italy

While the lab at the Snell Foundation was busy with ongoing SA2025 and M2025 certification testing, in September 2025 Executive Director Steve Johnson, Director of Certification Denis Anishchenko, and Vice President of the Snell Board of Directors Bill Muzzy visited several helmet manufacturers in Italy. Snell representatives periodically make factory visits around the world to support manufacturers that are committed to the most demanding Snell Standards.

This trip enhanced understanding of the most current manufacturing technology and practices, which helps Snell's communication with helmet makers as well as development of future Snell testing requirements.

The Snell party also visited the Newton Lab in Milan, Italy, one of the most recognized helmet testing facilities in Europe and a collaborating partner with Snell Foundation for many years, especially in the area of helmet certification to the joint Snell/FIA standard for children's motorsport activities.

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SA2025

Taking Effect

The Snell SA2025 Standard for auto racing took effect October 1, 2025. Over 100 different helmet models are already certified as of the publication time of this newsletter. Currently certified helmet list is posted on the Snell website each day as testing results are finished. Production timeline of SA2020 labeled helmets is extended to December 31, 2026.

Decal Reports

With both Snell M2025 and SA 2025 certified helmets in full production, newly certified helmets are coming into the market at a steady pace. Snell Foundation's licensing agreement requires that Snell manufacturers report quarterly its production and distribution of certified products. The Snell lab will continuously test Snell certified helmets as long as they are available in the market place for consumers. Snell certified manufacturers must submit those quarterly reports on a timely manner to support the Snell Random Sample Program and help build public trust.

Helmet Donations

Snell Foundation is a long-time supporter of motorcycle rider education. Each year Education Director Hong Zhang facilitates helmet donations from Snell manufacturers to the annual State Motorcycle Safety Association (SMSA) summit where rider coaches congregate to share best practices and program ideas. In September 2025, Ed Wildman of Comoto personally attended SMSA with donated helmets. Arai and Shoei also donated helmets to SMSA 2025 Summit. If your company would like to support rider coaches, please contact Hong@smf.org to arrange helmet donations.



Snell at PRI 2025

At the Performance Racing Industry Show 2025 Snell staff answered questions from racing officials and drivers. Snell Foundation values this platform to reach out to race drivers, track managers and racing officials. This PRI was particularly exciting to see so many newly certified SA2025 helmets on the show floor.



Education Videos and Outreach



A live interview on SA2025 was conducted at PRI 2025 via FOX Sport. New Snell educational videos are posted on Snell Youtube channel with updated information on SA2025 and M2025 standards. 3D graphic materials explain injury mechanism and helmet function. Social media posting will include short video reels that are popular with younger audience. Here are the links for any interested parties to help spread the word of head protection and helmet safety: [Snell Foundation, Inc. - YouTube](#)

Modular Helmet

Multiple samples of five different modular helmet models have been donated to the Snell modular helmet research project. Impact testing has begun in hot, cold, wet, and room temperature conditions to investigate the protection level in each sample. Comprehensive testing results will help identify the highest level of impact energy management capability in those modular helmets currently sold on the market. Updates on the final phase of the project will be forth coming.

From the Editor:

We invite comments and items for inclusion in subsequent issues.

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