

[20064001]



Sen. Danforth and others also want the department to require additional safety equipment in light trucks and minivans , including air bags or automatic seat belts in front seats and improved side-crash protection .

[20064016]

The department 's roof-crush proposal would apply to vehicles weighing 10,000 pounds or less .

[20064017]

The roofs would be required to withstand a force of 1.5 times the unloaded weight of the vehicle .

[20064018]

During the test , the roof could n't be depressed more than five inches .

[20064019]

In Detroit , a Chrysler Corp. official said the company currently has no rear-seat lap and shoulder belts in its light trucks , but plans to begin phasing them in by the end of the 1990 model year .

[20064020]

He said Chrysler fully expects to have them installed across its light-truck line by the Sept. 1 , 1991 , deadline .

[20064021]

Chrysler said its trucks and vans already meet the roof-crush resistance standard for cars .

[20064022]

John Leinonen , executive engineer of Ford Motor Co. 's auto-safety office , said Ford trucks have met car standards for roof-crush resistance since 1982 .

[20064023]

Ford began installing the rear-seat belts in trucks with its F-series Crew Cab pickups in the 1989 model year .

[20064024]

The new Explorer sport-utility vehicle , set for introduction next spring , will also have the rear-seat belts .

[20064025]

Mr. Leinonen said he expects Ford to meet the deadline easily .