



Motorcycle Industry Council

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Motorcycle Industry Council Launches HelmetCheck.org; Allows Riders to Check Their Helmet Meets U.S. Department of Transportation Safety Standard

IRVINE, Calif., Nov. 20, 2008 – HelmetCheck.org, developed by the Motorcycle Industry Council’s Helmet Task Force, will be launched in December for riders to verify that a helmet they own, or are considering for purchase, complies with the U.S. Department of Transportation’s safety standard (FMVSS 218). This new website will allow consumers to find information on DOT-compliant helmets from any helmet manufacturer voluntarily participating in the database.

“A DOT-labeled helmet denotes that the manufacturer confirms it meets or exceeds the government standards for protection,” said Eric Anderson, chairman of the MIC Helmet Task Force. “DOT-compliant helmets are marked with an identifying sticker on the back. However, with hundreds of models available to choose from, and especially given the prevalence of counterfeit stickers, there is understandably a lot of confusion among consumers. HelmetCheck.org will be a reliable way for riders and law enforcement agencies to verify that a specific manufacturer’s helmet meets the DOT standard.”

To display a DOT certification symbol on helmets, manufacturers must adhere to standards that include impact absorbing capability and penetration resistance, and a retention system standard that ensures a helmet stays fastened in the event of a crash.

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“The most important piece of safety equipment a rider can wear is a DOT-compliant helmet. We hope to call attention to the DOT standard and let riders know that they can reliably identify and verify that the helmet they own, or are considering for purchase, is DOT-compliant,” Anderson said.

HelmetCheck.org also will be a repository of helmet-related information, research and public service announcements for the benefit of consumers, policy-makers and law enforcement.

Located in Irvine, Calif., the Motorcycle Industry Council is a not-for-profit national trade association representing manufacturers and distributors of motorcycles and scooters, parts and accessories for motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and recreational off-highway vehicles, as well as members of allied trades.

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