

WANTED: A FAMILY OF DUMMIES

(<u>PRWEB</u>) July 22, 2000 -- (NOTE: This Surf@home column features 13 topic-related links that can be found at <u>www.homestead.com/surfathome</u>)

Another family of dummies, that is just what the world needs. At least that is what the world is getting as a result of the new Federal airbag regulation. According to First Technology Safety Systems, the world's largest creator of sophisticated crash test dummies and computer crash test models, the regulation requires automakers to run crash tests using a whole new family of dummies.

First Technology working with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) has already given birth to the new dummy family. Like any proud new parent, First Technology has pictures of the family. Just click to see what a dummy looks like.

The new First Technology family consists of a small female (5.1", 105 lbs.), a six year old (40.5", 50.2 lbs.), a three year old (37", 34.7 lbs.), and an infant 12 month old (29.5", 22.1 lbs.). The new dummies are additions to the mid size male dummy already in federal regulation. The dummies have many sensors that measure forces during a crash.

This new family of dummies is not to be confused with the musically inclined CrashTest Dummies. Nor should the family be confused with the dummies, Vince and Larry who are the two nationally known crash dummies seen in television commercials.

For a humorous look at some of the problems associated with dummies read Fashion for Dummies: Auto Makers Follow Dress Code for Crash Tests by Anna Wilde Mathews a staff reporter of The Wall Street Journal.

If you happen to consider yourself a distant relative, or even a close relative, to a dummy family the World Wide Web offers wonderful resources for those of kindred spirit with the dummies. A great family site to visit is the Online Resource for Dummies at Dummies.com. You can even subscribe to a family newsletter for dummies called the Dummies Dispatch. The newsletter promises to keep you up-to-date on what's new at Dummies.com including the latest Dummies Tips, and more!

James Joyce's Ulysses is not something that would normally come to mind when the topic is dummies. However there is a site that offers a parody of both James Joyce's novel Ulysses and the IDG Books series " $\hat{A} \Box$ for dummies." To read the parody read Ulysses for dummies.

With so many dummies loose in the world, you know there has to be a dummy doctor and there is -- Alan Semok. Alan is regarded one of the recognized experts in the repair/restoration of dummies (ventriloquial figures and puppets of every type). He has done repair and restorations on everything from original Edgar Bergen and Paul Winchell figures to the original Howdy Doody marionette.

Bob Hirschfeld, the first self-proclaimed Cybersatirist(tm) on the Internet, is no dummy and he also doesn't think America is for dummies. "It's not we the American people who are the dummies; it's those behind government, business, and the media who continually underestimate our intelligence and subject us to their



foolishness. Who designed a computer system you shut down by clicking on the 'Start' button," notes Bob in "America NOT for Dummies."

Whether you are a dummy or not, cyberspace is the place to be. And it is not dumb to earn some cash with Alladvantage or at GetPaid4 while you are surfing. So, grab your mouse and click away.



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