# PHRED SEZ.....

**J. Fred Ettline, WBCCI #27910**

## Seat Belt Twisted?

You unlock the vehicle door, slide in the driver's seat, start the engine, reach across your body to grasp the seat belt, pull it back across and snap it into the receiver by your right hip. Now you are safe and ready to join the traffic flow. Or are you? A close inspection will reveal that the shoulder harness section has a 180 degree twist in it at the point where it crosses your chest. If questioned about the twist you are apt to answer, "Yeah, I don't know when that happened. It has been that way for a couple of months and pulling it out the whole way by my left shoulder doesn't fix the problem, nor does flipping the buckle one way or the other. No harm done, I guess. I am living with it!"

Since you are concerned enough about safety to utilize the seat belt, be aware that the twist will greatly multiply the deceleration loads in that area of your chest, should you hit something head-on. If you have ever seen head-on crash survivors with purple marks wherever the belt (lap and shoulder harness) restrained them, you will be interested in getting this twist straightened out. But how, since nothing you have

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## Aluminum Rim Maintenance: an Addendum

A recent column on aluminum rim maintenance prompted an email response from **Jerry Hodge, WBCCI #6673.** While the article pointed out that the *Aluminum Brightener Cleaner* (NAPA Auto Parts Item #BK 7651458) was mildly acidic and was useful for non-clearcoated or slightly oxidized aluminum rims, Jerry suggests an alternative view.

He writes that the acidic process works best on non-clearcoated **unpolished** aluminum surfaces. "There is only one way to maintain the surface of non-clearcoated **polished** aluminum, and that is to polish it. I have found that the product sold by Airstream for this purpose has no equal. The Alcoa Aluminum Wheel Polish System consists of 3 items, the polish, PDQ brightener and the sealant. When used per instructions, it produces a brilliant, long lasting shine that is mirror like."

The bottom line is that your late model trailer or motorhome will probably respond very quickly to the Alcoa Aluminum Wheel System, maybe even just needing the PDQ application and then the sealant to produce like-new results. If your unit is older and has non-clearcoated rims that are looking gray from oxidation, your greatest benefit would be first to use the acidic brightener cleaner to achieve noticeably improved results (don't forget the final washing and rinsing to neutralize the acidic brightener). Second, you can then polish the aluminum surface with the wheel polish system, resulting in a molten, mirror-like finish. If the bright, reflective finish is not the goal, then the application of the NAPA brightener cleaner will produce a very bright, raw aluminum appearance.

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The CD book, Phred Sez - the First Ten Years, has been well received and is in its third printing. It is available on computer CD (written in Microsoft Works and also Microsoft Word). Order by mail for yourself or for loved ones by sending a check for $15 each (Includes shipping) to the address below.

*Help me with topics for the PHRED SEZ column. Send your creative experiences and ideas by US mail, E-Mail, Fax, or phone:*

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