CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. An infant car seat system for use with a vehicle seat, the infant car seat system comprising:

an infant car seat shell configured to support an infant; and

an adjustable anchor system including at least one anchor releasably engageable with the vehicle seat;

wherein the adjustable anchor system is coupled to the infant car seat shell such that the at least one anchor is movable between a retracted state and an extended state,

wherein, in the retracted state, the at least one anchor of the adjustable anchor system is retracted and secured to the infant car seat shell, and

wherein, in the extended state, the at least one anchor of the adjustable anchor system is extended and fixed in position relative to the infant car seat shell for securing the infant car seat system to the vehicle seat.

2. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the infant car seat shell comprises a retraction slot to receive at least a portion of the adjustable anchor system in the retracted state.

3. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the at least one anchor comprises two anchors and the adjustable anchor system comprises:

an adjustable frame arranged within the infant car seat shell and configured to slidingly move relative thereto, wherein the two anchors are arranged at a forward end of the adjustable frame; and

a cross member extending between the two anchors.

4. The infant car seat system of claim 3, further comprising a pivot member pivotably connected between a part of the infant car seat shell and the cross member.

5. The infant car seat system of claim 3, further comprising a releasable locking connection configured to selectively and releasably fix a position of the adjustable frame relative to the infant car seat shell.

6. The infant car seat system of claim 3, wherein the infant car seat shell comprises two seat shell rails, and a portion of the adjustable frame extends through each of the two seat shell rails.

7. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises a releasable locking connection configured to selectively and releasably fix a position of the at least one anchor relative to the infant car seat shell.

8. The infant car seat system of claim 7, wherein the at least one anchor is connected to a cross member and wherein the releasable locking connection comprises an element having a fixed connection at the cross member and a releasable locking connection arranged on the infant car seat shell and configured to selectively lock a length of the releasable locking connection.

9. The infant car seat system of claim 7, wherein the releasable locking connection comprises a webbing, a belt, or a strap.

10. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the at least one anchor comprises two anchors and wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises:

a cross member extending between the two anchors;

an adjustable anchor connector associated with each of the two anchors, wherein the adjustable anchor connector is wound about a portion of the cross member; and

an adjustable locking member, the adjustable locking member being wound about a portion of the cross member.

11. The infant car seat system of claim 10, wherein a winding direction of the adjustable anchor connector is opposite to the winding direction of the adjustable locking member.

12. The infant car seat system of claim 10, further comprising a crank handle configured for manual rotation of the cross member.

13. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the at least one anchor comprises two anchors and wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises:

a cross member extending between the two anchors; and

a pivot member pivotably arranged between the infant car seat shell and the cross member.

14. The infant car seat system of claim 13, wherein the adjustable anchor system further comprises:

a link assembly arranged in pivotable connection between at least one of the cross member and the pivot member and the infant car seat shell.

15. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises:

a rigid frame member fixedly positioned on or in the infant car seat shell; and

a movable frame member movably arranged with respect to the rigid frame member, wherein the at least one anchor is arranged at an end of the movable frame member.

16. The infant car seat system of claim 15, wherein the adjustable anchor system further comprises:

a releasable locking connection configured to selectively fix a relative position between the rigid frame member and the movable frame member.

17. The infant car seat system of claim 1, wherein the adjustable anchor system is configured to be secured to the vehicle seat in each of the retracted state and the extended state.

18. An infant car seat system for use with a vehicle seat, the infant car seat system comprising:

an infant car seat shell having a front and a back; and

an adjustable anchor system associated with the infant car seat shell, the adjustable anchor system including:

at least one anchor configured to releasably engage with a part of the vehicle seat;

a frame comprising at least a movable portion, wherein the at least one anchor is coupled to the movable portion of the frame and wherein the movable portion of the frame is movable relative to the infant car seat shell between a retracted state and an extended state,

wherein, in the extended state, the movable portion of the frame is unlocked and movable with the at least one anchor with respect to at least one of an axial distance from the front of the infant car seat shell and an angle of orientation relative to the infant car seat shell.

19. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the adjustable anchor system is configured to have a locked state, wherein the movable portion of the frame is locked relative to the infant car seat shell.

20. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the infant car seat shell comprises a retraction slot to receive at least a portion of the adjustable anchor system in the retracted state.

21. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the at least one anchor comprises two anchors and the adjustable anchor system comprises:

an adjustable frame arranged within the infant car seat shell and configured to slidingly move relative thereto, wherein the two anchors are arranged at a forward end of the adjustable frame; and

a cross member extending between the two anchors.

22. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises a releasable locking connection configured to selectively and releasably fix a position of the at least one anchor relative to the infant car seat shell.

23. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the at least one anchor comprises two anchors and wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises:

a cross member extending between the two anchors;

an adjustable anchor connector associated with each of the two anchors, wherein the adjustable anchor connector is wound about a portion of the cross member; and

an adjustable locking member wound about a portion of the cross member.

24. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the at least one anchor comprises two anchors and wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises:

a cross member extending between the two anchors; and

a pivot member pivotably arranged between the infant car seat shell and the cross member.

25. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the adjustable anchor system comprises:

a rigid frame member fixedly positioned on or in the infant car seat shell;

a movable frame member movably arranged with respect to the rigid frame member, wherein the at least one anchor is arranged at an end of the movable frame member.

26. The infant car seat system of claim 18, wherein the adjustable anchor system is configured to be secured to the vehicle seat in each of the retracted state and the extended state.