WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A child seat system, the child seat system comprising:

a support base;

a seat body rotatably connectable to the support base, the seat body having a seat portion and a back portion extending from the seat portion; and

a side impact protection (SIP) device arranged at an exterior of the seat body the seat body, the SIP device being at least one of sized, shaped, and positioned to allow rotation of the child seat relative to the support base.

2. The child seat system of claim 1, wherein the support base includes a base seat portion and a base back portion, the base back portion being arranged adjacent to the back portion of the seat body and having a height equal to at least 50% of a height of the back portion of the seat body.

3. The child seat system of claim 2, wherein the SIP device is horizontally aligned with the base back portion.

4. The child seat system of claim 1, wherein the back portion of the seat body includes a back and at least one upright side member extending in from the back, the back portion being contoured to define a recess between a lateral side of the back and the at least one upright side member.

5. The child seat system of claim 4, wherein the SIP device is arranged within the recess.

6. The child seat system of claim 4, wherein the SIP device does not protrude laterally outwardly beyond the at least one upright side member.

7. The child seat system of claim 4, wherein the SIP device is affixed to the lateral side of the back.

8. The child seat system of claim 1, wherein the SIP device is configured to permanently deform in response to application of a force to the SIP device.

9. The child seat system of claim 8, wherein the SIP device is configured to collapse in response to application of the force.

10. The child seat system of claim 1, wherein the SIP device has a front wall and a rear wall, the rear wall being substantially flush with an exterior surface of the back portion.

11. The child seat system of claim 10, wherein the rear wall is contoured to prevent interference with the support base.

12. The child seat system of claim 1, wherein the SIP device is located at a position vertically offset from the support base to allow rotation of the child seat relative to the support base.

13. The child seat system of claim 12, wherein the support base includes a base seat portion and a base back portion, the base back portion being arranged adjacent to the back portion of the seat body and having a height equal to at least 50% of a height of the back portion of the seat body.

14. The child seat system of claim 13, wherein the base back portion has a height equal to at least 75% of the height of the back portion of the seat body.

15. The child seat system of claim 13, wherein the SIP device is located at a position vertically above a plane containing an uppermost surface of the base back portion.

16. The child seat system of claim 12, wherein the SIP device has a planar configuration.

17. The child seat system of claim 16, wherein the SIP device is arranged within a horizontal plane.

18. The child seat system of claim 12, wherein the SIP device has a curved contour corresponding to an adjacent portion of the child seat.