



# Occupational Road Risk

London Health and Safety Group

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- Worked at Ford for 5 years supporting the logistics, maintenance, plant protection and project teams ( and anything else they throw at me)
- Previous incarnations include Food Safety Advisor , Production Manager, Industrial Hygiene Manager, Safety in social housing





**200, 000 employees worldwide**

**67 production plants**

**14,000 employees in the UK**

**Over 50% of the diesel engines across the globe are made in Dagenham**

# Work place V work related

- Research commissioned by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and others suggests that between 25% and 33% of fatal and serious road traffic incidents involve someone who was at work at the time.
- These figures include all categories of road users - drivers, motorcyclists and cyclists as well as pedestrians and those working at the side of the road, suggesting that between **10,175 and 13,512 people were killed or injured in at-work road incidents in 2001.\* (MoRR)**
- 2015/2016 HSE figures for deaths in the workplace in a YEAR
  - **144 employees**
  - **67 members of the public**

**Are we, as safety professionals focusing on our biggest risk ?**

# History of UK Road History

- 1903 Driving license introduced : Just identified driver and vehicle
- 1930 Road Traffic Act introduced
- 1930 Highway Code introduced
- 1934 License for lorry drivers introduced along with belisha beacons
- 1935 Car licence introduced ( Mr R Beere for quiz fans)
- 1935 L plates / wind screen wipers / 30 mph speed limit all introduced
- 1959 M1 officially opened
- 1967 Drink Driving law introduced
- 1973 Safety helmets made compulsory for mopeds & motorcycles
- 1985 PSV tests introduced
- 1989 Motorcycle pursuit tests introduced
- 1999 Photocard license introduced
- 2014 DSA & VOSA merged ; now known at the DVSA
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# Think you're a good driver ?



## Have you ever ?

- Undertaken a car ?
- “Waved” to a fellow motorist as you drove past ?
- Glanced at your phone when a text comes in ?
- Gone above the speed limit ?
- Accelerated at an amber light ?
- Forgotten to indicated ( or were indicators an optional extra)
- Tailgated
- Driven into another vehicles blind spot ?

**Would you pass your test ?**

**What does this road sign mean ?**



# Would you pass your test ?

What % of all emissions does  
road transport account for ?



# Would you pass your test ?

If you are involved in a collision  
what documents may the police  
ask you to produce ?

# Would you pass your test ?

In which three situations can  
you overtake another vehicle  
on the left ?

# Would you pass your test ?



If a cycle lane is marked by a solid white line , when must you NOT drive or park in it ?

# The Legal Bit

- The Road Traffic Act
- Road Vehicle (Construction & Use) Regs
  
- Section 2, 3, 7 or 37 HSWA 1974
- Section 37
- The Mgt of H&S at work regs
- Corporate Manslaughter
- Gross negligence Manslaughter

**HSE Guidelines, 'Driving at Work', state that "health and safety law applies to on-the-road work activities as to all work activities and the risks should be effectively managed within a health and safety system".**

**It is also an offence under road traffic law to 'cause or permit' a person to drive a vehicle that is in a dangerous condition or without a valid licence or at least third party insurance.**

# Consequences

Offence : Causing death by DANGEROUS driving

Standard of driving falls far below

- Up to 14 years custodial sentence
- Minimum disqualification of 2 years
- Compulsory extended re-test

Offence: Causing death by CARELESS driving

Standard “below” rather than “ far below”

- Either way offence
- Up to 5 years custodial sentence
- Minimum 12 months disqualification
- Discretionary re-test

**And then there are the corporate consequences .....as well as the moral**

# Risk Assessment



# Safer Alternatives

- Eliminate
  - Remote communication
  - Public transport ( did Ford just say that !)
  - Maximise car sharing
  - Eliminate unnecessary vehicle movements
  - Avoid adverse weather conditions where practicable
- Reduce
  - Set limits on max driving per day
  - Meet in the middle !
  - Specify vehicle / maintenance regimes
- Control drivers hours
  - Set limits for unbroken driving hours
  - Journey planning
  - Training
- Optimise Schedules
  - Schedule to allow for weather / traffic etc
  - Group visits
  - Reduce exposure to peak accident times
  - Specify safest routes
- Permit overnight stays
- Communication
  - Clear message on substance use
  - Defect reporting
  - Consultation and implementation of policy

# Assessing Driver Competence

- Age and experience
- Background
- License checks at recruitment and ongoing
- License type
- Physical fitness
- Medical Conditions
- Seat belt exemption !





# Communication devices

The law applies to 'anyone who causes or permits any other person' to use a hand-held mobile phone while driving. Employers are not liable just because they supplied a telephone or because they phoned an employee who was driving. However, employers would probably be liable if they required their employees to use a hand-held phone while driving and might also be liable if they failed to forbid employees to use such phones on company business.

## Is hands-free phone equipment allowed?

- Provided that a phone can be operated without holding it then hands-free equipment is not prohibited by the new regulation. And pushing buttons on a phone while it is in a cradle or on the steering wheel or handlebars of a motorbike for example is not covered by the new offence, provided you don't hold the phone. However, hands-free phones are also distracting and you still risk prosecution for failing to have proper control of a vehicle under Regulation 104 of the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 - if you use a hands-free phone when driving.

**If there is an incident the use of any phone or similar device might justify charges of careless or dangerous driving.**

## Are there any exemptions?

- Yes. There is an exemption for calls to 999 or 112 in genuine emergencies where it is unsafe or impractical to stop.

# Drivers Hours

Accidents are most likely to happen:

- On long monotonous journey e.g. motorways
- Between 2am and 6am
- Between 2pm – 4pm , especially after a large lunch or an alcoholic drink)
- After having less sleep than normal
- After drinking alcohol
- If taking medicines that cause drowsiness
- On the journey home after a night shift
- Highway code recommends that non professional drivers should take a 15 min break every 2 hours
- NO other work to be carried out during this break
- A break of less than 15 mins should not count as a rest

**An estimated 300 people a year are killed where a driver has fallen asleep at the wheel**

# Company Vehicles

- Essential vehicles inc grey fleet
  - Defined within PUWER
  - Suitable for task
  - Adequate H&S information to be provided
  - Maintained
  - Adequately trained / familiarisation

# Affects of Speed

- 60% of drivers admit to speeding in urban areas
  - Hit by a car at 20 mph , 1 in 10 pedestrians will be killed
  - Hit by a car at 30 MPH , 5 in 10 pedestrians will be killed
  - Hit by a car at 40 MPH , 9 out of 10 pedestrians will be killed
- 
- Nearly 30% of people who drive for work have at least 3 penalty points
    - Nearly DOUBLE that of non business users

If anyone drives for work purposes it is the employers responsibility to ensure the license is valid

# Emergency Situations

- Medical emergencies
- Breakdown
- In the event of an accident - what now ?
  - Who to call ? What to say and do ?
  - Do you have out of hours contact details ?
  - Any statement given to the police at the scene does not need to be disclosed if you're not represented
  - Legal privilege when appropriate

What support do you have in place when an employee returns to work ?

# Other Road Users

- Cyclists
- HGV's
- Pedestrians
- Motor Cyclists
- Learners
- Delivery Drivers



Truck-drivers-blind-spot-and-cycling.mp4

# Delivery Areas

- Clearly marked loading bays
- Legal delivery zones
- Pedestrian / Vehicle separation
- Sharing of site rules
- Manual Handling
- Spillage control
- Environmental factors
  - Camber
  - Lighting
  - Limited space
- Pre-advice on any issues
- Agree a safe delivery plan

## Solihull firm fined after worker was crushed

**Date:**

15 June 2015

Solihull based car part manufacturer, TRW Ltd was fined on Monday 15 June 2015 after a worker was crushed between a forklift truck and a trailer suffering serious injuries.

On the 18 August 2014, the employee, who was a driver of an articulated lorry for Ford Motor Company, was on site at TRW Ltd making a collection. While altering the support beam on the trailer during a loading process he was hit by the load on the forklift which crushed him against the bed of the trailer as the forklift truck dropped the load.

The driver suffered broken ribs and internal bruising and is still unable to return to work following ongoing physical problems.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that TRW Ltd had not adequately assessed the risk from the movement of transport and there was no formal loading or unloading procedure. No consideration had been given to segregating pedestrians or providing safe areas for third party drivers. The forklift truck in use was a side-loading reach truck and the drivers view was restricted by the load.

# Do you have visible Management Commitment ?



- Not having a clear policy
- Driving the morning after a team building event
- Unrealistic schedules
- Carrying on a conversation when they know your on the phone
- Timing leaving the office so they dial into a meeting on route
- Expecting a 9am meeting when its 4 hour drive away ?



**BOSSSES BE LIKE**



**"YOU STILL COMING  
TO WORK RIGHT?"**

# Suggestions for your policy

- Responsibilities at ALL levels
- Scope
- Communication devices
- Conducting of licence / insurance / vehicle checks
- Accident Reporting
- Emergency Situations
- Journey planning
- Seat belt usage
- Substance abuse
- Hazard identification and risk assessment
- Smoking
- Training
- Carrying non employees
- Overseas considerations
- Reporting changes in circumstances

# A bit of light reading

- RoSPA ; <http://www.rospa.com/occupational-safety/our-projects/morr/>
- HSE : Driving at work <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg382.pdf>
- UNITE : [Driven to Death](#)
- SHP; [Poor management of occupational road risk](#)
- ORSA : <http://www.orsa.org.uk/what-is-orsa/>
- THINK : <http://think.direct.gov.uk/>





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