

TOOL BOX TALKS

Tailgating

Roughly 1,000 people die on Missouri roadways each year. Transportation accidents are the number one killer of American workers. Vehicle accidents are the largest safety issue faced by employers. Off-the-job vehicle accidents affect businesses as well, since the injured worker cannot be at work, making a paycheck! But there are ways to minimize the hazards that are faced on the road. What habits or behavior can we, personally, correct to make driving safer?

WORKSAFE TIPS

PROBLEMS WITH TAILGATING

- Occurs in all types of traffic.
- Increases stress for all drivers.
- People are trying to “go with the flow.”
- Is known to be a frequent cause of road rage.
- Doesn’t give the driver time to react to a problem.
- Causes a rear-end style accident.

HOW TO REMAIN SAFE

- Maintain a minimum of 3 seconds following distance.

Whenever a new hazard is experienced, add a second:

- + 1 second for snow
- + 1 second for rain
- + 1 second for heavy traffic

THREE ACTIONS OCCUR WHENEVER THE BRAKES ARE NEEDED:

1. The driver must make a decision about the problem ahead;
2. The driver must react to the problem ahead;
3. The vehicle systems, like the brakes, must activate.

WHAT FACTORS AFFECT THESE ACTIONS?

- Fatigue or intoxication
- Vehicle poorly maintained
- Wet road surface and bad tires

THE DRIVER SEES A PROBLEM AHEAD

The vehicle travels up to a hundred feet while the driver determines whether or not a hazard is in the road.

This decision-making time is affected by:

- Intoxication, fatigue, dirty windshield, bad headlight, sun in eyes, dark conditions

- Distractions like grooming, eating, cell phone and GPS system use.

THE DRIVER REACTS

The vehicle is still moving down the road while the driver reacts. The vehicle can travel over one-hundred feet of roadway during this time.

Affected by:

- Intoxication, fatigue, clutter on floorboards, poor eyesight.

BRAKING SYSTEM ACTIVATED

Distance the vehicle travels after the brakes have been activated.

Affected by:

- Precipitation, brake condition, tire condition, brake lag, pulling a trailer

Realize that it takes the vehicle up to or over 500 feet to stop when driving at 70 miles per hour!

When traveling in urban areas, emergency stopping for a jaywalker or bicyclist can take over 120 feet!

When a driver tailgates, there isn’t enough time to stop the vehicle before rear-ending the other driver!

Tool Box Talk

Date of Discussion _____

Instructor _____

Attendees:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Follow-up Items
