

How you should manage work related road safety

As an employer you should carry out a risk assessment. A risk assessment is nothing more than a careful examination of what at-work activities can cause harm to people. It should be carried out by a competent person with practical knowledge of the work activities being assessed. It will help you to assess whether you have done enough and what you need to do to ensure safer working practices. Your risk assessment should be appropriate to the circumstances of your organisation and does not have to be over complex.

The aim is to make the risk of someone being injured or killed, as low as possible.

When evaluating the risks, consideration should be given to the driver, the vehicle and the journey. To find out more see 'Driving at Work - Managing work-related road safety' at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg384.pdf

There are also a number of things that all drivers can do to ensure their own safety. Employers can contribute to this by reminding employees to:

- plan journeys and make time for a break every two hours of driving
- always wear a seatbelt, even on a short journey
- switch off mobile phones before they drive off.

For further information on how to manage work related road safety log on to www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk

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**20
road
deaths
each week
involve people
at work**

WORK RELATED ROAD SAFETY

Advice for employers on
work related driving

Department for
Transport



www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk

Driving at work

Many people use the roads as part of their job.

It has been estimated that up to a third of all road traffic crashes involve somebody who was at work at the time*. This may account for over 20 fatalities and 250 serious injuries every week.

As an employer, manager or supervisor you have a legal responsibility to ensure the health and safety of all employees while they are at work. Health and safety law applies to on-the-road work activities as it does to all work activities.

This leaflet suggests ways to manage at-work road risk and outlines the benefits for you, your employees and your company, including helping to keep your costs down.

Benefits of managing work related road safety

The true costs of crashes to organisations are nearly always higher than just the costs of repairs and insurance claims. The benefits to you, your employees and the company from managing work-related road safety can be considerable whatever the size of your business. Some of these benefits are listed below:

- Fewer days lost due to injury.
- Reduced risk of work-related ill-health.
- Reduced stress and improved morale.
- Less need for investigation and paperwork.
- Reduced lost time due to work rescheduling.
- Fewer vehicles off the road for repair.
- Reduced running costs through better driving standards.
- Fewer missed orders and business opportunities.
- Less chance of key employees being banned from driving, e.g. as a result of points on their licences.



* November 2001 "Reducing at-work road traffic incidents" para 17.