

OUR DRIVING CONCERN

TEXAS EMPLOYER TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



October 2015

NEW Mini-Webinar Series:

Registration now open, free to all.

[Occupational Driving Safety Programs: The Roadway Workplace](#)

Thursday, Oct 22, 10:00 am

[Occupational Driving Safety Programs: The Driver](#)

Thursday, Oct 29, 10:00 am

[Occupational Driving Safety Programs: The Vehicle and the Environment](#)

Thursday, Nov 5, 10:00 am

Upcoming Workshops

**Tuesday, Nov 3
8:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**

TX Dept. of Insurance
7551 Metro Center Drive,
Austin, TX

*Space is limited. Please
register to attend.*

[Register](#)

NEW MINI-WEBINAR SERIES

Register now for free!

Registration is now open for a brand new mini-webinar series; great for people who might only have 10-15 minutes in their day to spare, this series lets you tune in to quick and easy to use information about important employee traffic safety topics.

[Occupational Driving Safety Programs: The Roadway Workplace](#)

Thursday, October 22, 2015 10:00 a.m.

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Our Driving Concern: Train the Trainer Workshop

Our Driving Concern offers a free training program to teach your employees the basics of traffic safety and help prevent costly crashes.

Our Driving Concern Train-the-Trainer Workshops teach presentation skills in conjunction with a traffic safety curriculum to address driver behaviors that are costly to Texas employers. This training is great for HR professionals, safety professionals, supervisors, instructors, and other staff.

More ways to connect with us!

Visit our website www.txdrivingconcern.org

Know someone who would benefit from receiving this monthly newsletter?
[Add them](#) to our email list.

Questions?
Contact [Lisa Robinson](#),
(512) 466-7383

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[ODCTX @ODCTXTS](#)

Keep your employees safe.
[Join the Journey to Safety Excellence](#) today!
**This is a free resource*

Upcoming Workshops

Nov 3, 2015 (8:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.)

Location: Texas Department of Insurance

7551 Metro Center Drive, Austin, TX

Space is limited. Please register to attend. [Register](#) now.

[Contact us](#) if you would like to schedule one at your company.

Back to basics: Rules for driving in rush hour

We've all been there, you're driving to work with your morning coffee, energized and ready to start your day and then all of the sudden you're crawling along at a snail's pace.

These tense conditions can turn dangerous, stay safe with a few simple tips:

- Don't let boredom or rage trigger a rush-hour accident. Patience is thin and tempers occasionally flare because nobody wants to be where they are—stuck in slow-moving traffic.
- Don't box in your vehicle between others. Leave yourself a way out.
- Be prepared for other drivers to change lanes suddenly.
- Review the [three-second rule](#) and follow at a safe distance. Be prepared for cars in front of you to stop suddenly; be alert so you can avoid rear-ending the vehicle in front of you.



[Print & Share Aggressive Driving Poster](#)

Forget the scare tactics: Halloween drunk driving prevention materials

Creative marketing tools can be used to spread your message, whether it's in the workplace or in your community. To support your organization's commitment to the Halloween impaired driving prevention initiative print and share this [attention-grabbing poster](#) or [click here for more campaign materials](#). This Halloween prevention campaign is based on two basic principles:



- Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over (enforcement), and
- Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving (social norming)

New study points a finger at the dangers of distracted walking

“Hey, watch it!

“Excuse me!”

“Heads up!”

All of these commands are perfectly acceptable for grabbing the attention of that distracted walker heading your way, but how about putting a little bark in your bite with evidence that supports the risks associated with distracted walking?

A [new study](#) that attached sensors to the feet of subjects who texted as they crossed an obstacle course found they moved slower,

dragged their feet and wobbled off the path. In

addition to studies showing unsafe crossing behavior due to distraction, increases in the number of emergency room visits due to distractions have increased dramatically.



Take a step in the right direction by [sharing a video](#) that points out the risks of texting while walking with your staff.

TxDOT makes Rollover Simulators available

The roll-over convincer may be a great addition for health & safety fairs at your location. All TxDOT Traffic Safety Specialists have Rollover Simulators available. For contact information and information about simulator demonstrations at your location, please [view the brochure](#).



Demonstrations can show the importance of seatbelt use, which have been shown to reduce serious crash-related injuries and deaths by about half. Air bags provide added protection but are not a substitute for seat belts. Air bags plus seat belts provide the greatest protection for adults.

School bus cameras, hefty fines for drivers who violate school bus stop laws

The Texas Department of Public Safety is warning violators of school bus stop laws of the consequences they face. Violators could face a fine up to \$1,250, and a 6-month suspension of the driver's license; in construction zones, fines could be doubled. To enhance enforcement efforts, [cameras have been installed](#) on some buses. These are used to monitor traffic. Also, safety officials are encouraging others to report cars they see violating the law.

New traffic and license laws in Texas

Several new traffic and license laws went into effect September 1, affecting all drivers in Texas. During your next meeting or company newsletter, take the opportunity to incorporate a brief overview while reinforcing messaging around your own employer policies. Here you can

find more information and a [brief summary of the new laws](#).

***MyCarDoesWhat* Launches Live From Washington D.C.**

MyCarDoesWhat, a first-of-its-kind driver safety campaign, launched in

Washington D.C. last week! The

purpose of *MyCarDoesWhat* is to

educate drivers about automotive

safety technologies.



Ever wondered about how car

safety features like blindspot monitoring or lane departure warnings work

or if you are using these features as they were intended?

[MyCarDoesWhat.org](#) uses videos, graphics, animation, social media and other resources to educate the public on the ever-changing world of car safety features. The campaign provides quick and easy-to-use information for any driver, no matter what kind of car they have or how old it is. Find out more on the [MyCarDoesWhat.org](#) website.

The Our Driving Concern Newsletter

Our Driving Concern is a monthly e-newsletter from the Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program, a landmark driving initiative funded by a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation. This initiative is building a statewide network of employer involvement in crash prevention for employees both on-and-off the job.

Do you have a friend or colleague who would benefit from receiving this monthly newsletter? Add them to our email list. Our goal is to help employers put traffic safety into their safety culture.

Please feel free to contact me,

Lisa

Lisa Robinson

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ODC:Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program

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