Keeping Industry and VDOT Workforces Safe on the job

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First a quiz!
## Crash Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2015 Jan - June</th>
<th>2016 Jan - June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crashes</td>
<td>4,071</td>
<td>2,622</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>1,106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Injuries</td>
<td>1,859</td>
<td>1,417</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Workplace Fatalities

• 29 Virginia workers have died of job-related injuries and illnesses through the end of July compared to 31 deaths for all of 2015.

• More than half of those deaths occurred in general industry with 9 of the 29 in the construction industry.
Keeping the public safe

• The primary function of TTC is to provide for the reasonably safe and effective movement of road users through or around TTC zones while reasonably protecting road users, workers, responders to traffic incidents, and equipment.
Keeping the public safe

• Of equal importance to the public traveling through the TTC zone is the safety of workers performing the many varied tasks within the work space.

• TTC zones present constantly changing conditions that are unexpected by the road user.
Traffic Un-Control

- Is it confusing?
- Does it meet regulations?
Traffic Un-Control
Traffic Un-Control
Work Zone Safety
Work Zone Safety
Work Zone Safety
Backing
Reverse Signal Operations

- The vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above surrounding noise
- The vehicle is backed up with a spotter
  - Or the driver determines that no employee is in the path of the vehicle
- Defines what an obstructed view is
- Specific jobs for ground guides and drivers
- Allows cameras to be used in place of ground guides
Backing is a process

- Avoid it if you can
- Use all the tools given to you
  - Horn, mirrors, cameras, spotters
  - Continuously check mirrors and camera
- Slow down
- Know your blind spots
- Do a walk around
- Conditions change constantly
Blind spots
Know your blind spots
Know your blind spots
Backling

What the Driver Sees

What the Driver Can't See
Rear end crashes

• In 2015 more than 50% of the 2,622 WZ crashes were rear end collisions
Rear end collisions

• Stay alert and minimize distractions
• Always keep headlights on
• Pay attention to the road
  – Watch for brake lights ahead and traffic around you
• Merge into the proper lane as soon as you can
• Don’t tailgate
• Obey the posted speed limit
• Expect the unexpected
Cell phones and texting

- 2011 – 23% of auto collisions – 1.3 mil crashes
- 23x more likely to crash when texting
- 2.8x when dialing
- 1.3x when talking or listening
- 1.4x when reaching for device
- 13% of 18-20 admit cell phone use after crash
- 5 seconds minimum for texting
Mental Distraction Rating System

Even with your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel, mental distractions dangerously affect drivers behind the wheel.

- **Mild Danger**
  - Example: Listening to the radio or an audio book

- **Moderate Danger**
  - Example: Talking on a hand-held phone or a hands-free phone

- **High Danger**
  - Example: Using voice-activated texting or email feature

AAA.com/distraction
What can you do!

- Encourage open communication
  - Employees and Supervisors
- Emphasize the value of safety over speed
  - From company value to personal value
- Point out hazards so employees and supervisors are aware
  - If supervisors don’t know it’s a problem they can’t take action
What can you do!

• Don’t be afraid to say something
• Proactive approach to working/living safety
• Set a good example
  – Don’t just practice safety on the job or when someone is looking
• Understand people make mistakes and forget things
What can you do!

• Remind experienced employees to maintain their diligence and not become complacent
• Train or retrain employees who need it
• Understand the motivation behind the action
• Empower employees to be accountable for their personal safety and that of their coworkers
  – The number 4
Why?
Ask Yourself

• Is the **RISK** I am about to take worth the reward that could possibly come from my actions?
• Can the **RISK** I am about to take hurt anyone else in the immediate area?
• Could the **RISK** I am about to take cost either myself or my company money in the form of medical bills or lost time?
• Will this **RISK** put me in a position that will cause me not to make it home to my family?
• Is this **RISK** really worth it?
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