

# **Small Business Trade Association Forum**

**Work related road safety**

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# Outline

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- Background
- Legislation
- HSE involvement
- What have we achieved?
- What more can we all do?

# The law and Work Related Road Risk

- Driving at work is a work activity under health and safety legislation
- Employers, employees and self-employed have duties to themselves and anyone else who may be affected
- Risk assessment is key
- Applies to anyone driving for work – professional drivers, sales reps, service engineers, managers etc etc

# HSE accident stats - Transport

- 2006/07 33 fatal injuries to employees – rate increase of 71% over 2005/06
- Major injuries 3285 – 6% down on 2005/06
- Major accident causes:
  - 40% slips and trips
  - 15% handling
  - 15% falls from height
- Labour force survey – 73,000 people in transport, storage and communication suffering work-related illness.

# H&S in road distribution

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## Most Common causes of fatal accidents

- Run over or crushed by vehicle = 23 people
  - Includes 7 killed during coupling vehicles
- Hit or crushed by falling loads = 10 people
- Crushed under the vehicle during repair or maintenance = 9 people
- Falling from a vehicle = 6 people

Note: Numbers of people killed at work who were employed by the haulage industry – April 2001 to March 2006

# Work related road risk

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- Over 3000 deaths on UK roads in 2007
- 30% of these thought to be work-related
- Employers have duties to manage risks of work related driving under HSWA etc
- RTCs not reportable under RIDDOR
- HSE have a protocol with Police for investigation of work related road deaths
- WRRR is being seen as the most likely area for the new Corporate Manslaughter Act to be applied.

# Legislation – road traffic

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- Road Traffic Act
- Speeding
- Driving without due care & attention
- Dangerous driving
- Causing death by dangerous driving
- Drink and drugs
- Condition and safety of vehicle

# Legislation – health & safety

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- Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974
- Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations
  - Duty to protect employees and others
  - Risk assessment
  - Training
  - Systems of work

# Penalties

- **HSWA – fines and imprisonment (s37)**
- **Corporate Manslaughter & Corporate Homicide Act 2007**
  - Additional deterrent penalty
  - Imposes no new duties or obligations
  - HSE support for police and CPS according to Work Related Deaths Protocol

# Benefits

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- Fewer days lost to injury
- Fewer vehicles off the road for repair
- Less need for investigation & paperwork
- Reduced running costs through better driving standards
- Reduced insurance costs
- A safer environment for all

# Working with DfT & its agencies

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- Driving at work is a work activity
- Risks must be managed
- Police and VOSA have primary role in investigating accidents
- HSE support police investigations where there is evidence to suggest H & S management failures have contributed significantly to an accident
- ACPO Road Death Investigation Manual

# What is HSE doing?

- Jointly promoting *Driving at work* and advice on the DfT web-site
- Participating in Beyond 2010 Road Safety Strategy Steering Group
- Communicating key messages to industry through the Road Distribution Action Group and other groups, conferences and seminars
- Influencing Sector Skills Councils to incorporate h&s requirements in their training modules

# What are others doing?

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- DfT Beyond 2010 Road safety strategy
- *Think* campaign
- Driving for Better Business
- DSA and driver CPC
- RoSPA advice and guidance
- CILT, RHA, FTA services
- AIRSO, LARSOA, Fleet management forums – conferences etc

# HSE and Transport industry

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- **Risk assessment**
- **Driver training**
- **Falls from vehicles**
- **Preventing falling loads**
- **Fatigue**
- **Manual Handling**
- **Slips and Trips**

# Useful links and guidance

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HSE haulage website [www.hse.gov.uk/haulage/](http://www.hse.gov.uk/haulage/)

Workplace Transport Route Map

[www.hse.gov.uk/workplacetransport/](http://www.hse.gov.uk/workplacetransport/)

Work related road risk

[www.hse.gov.uk/roadsafety/index.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/roadsafety/index.htm)

Fatigue & risk index tool

[www.hse.gov.uk/humanfactors/shiftwork](http://www.hse.gov.uk/humanfactors/shiftwork)

DfT website [www.dft.gov.uk/roadsafety](http://www.dft.gov.uk/roadsafety)

[www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk](http://www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk)

HSE/DfT guidance – Driving at work INDG382