

STAY SAFE WITH SOCIETY

WORKING SAFELY IN TRAFFIC

According to workzonesafety.org, there have been an average of 115 work-related fatalities per year at road construction sites since 2006. From 2003 to 2010, there were 962 work zone fatalities and 46 percent were due to being struck by another vehicle. In one out of 10 of those fatalities, workers were flagging or performing traffic control duties and 20% were wearing high-visibility clothing. Being struck by a vehicle includes being backed over by another construction vehicle and 58 percent of those were caused by dump trucks, with 31 percent not having a back-up alarm.

Members of your crew may have developed some bad habits over time. They may say that they've always done it a certain way and nothing has ever happened. They may also give you a hard time about discussing a topic that they already know so much about. Utilize the following information to help your crew members understand the importance of this topic and how it affects each of them.

Checklist:

- Do workers wear approved high-visibility clothing that meets the ANSI/ISEA 107-2010 standard at all times when in work zones? The bright colors are associated with stopping or danger, and alert drivers to their presence.
- Are appropriate signs, signals, and barricades used that are consistent with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)? Signs must be placed in the proper locations. Some common problems are: insufficient advance warning, inadequate guidance through the work zone, and unprotected hazards.
- Have you provided supervisors and employees with training about work zone traffic control and flagger safety?
- Does the work area have good housekeeping?
- Are there any distractions to motorists that can be removed or covered?
- Are there any current or potential congestion and capacity problems?
- Are you working with local law enforcement to assist during times of high traffic volume or to enforce reduced work zone speed limits?
- Do you ensure that everyone knows their work and safety roles/responsibilities?
- Are all warning signs and traffic control devices in good condition?
- Do you encourage employees to report and repair warning signs and control devices that are not in place or are ineffective?
- Have you developed and reviewed a traffic-control plan for each work site with your crew?
- Do you use one of the many free work zone safety resources to better train your crew and design your work zone? The online National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse is one such resource.



**THERE ARE MANY
FREE WORK
ZONE SAFETY
RESOURCES TO
BETTER TRAIN
YOUR CREW AND
DESIGN YOUR
WORK ZONE.**

A Small Detail
That Can Make a
Big Difference.

Risk Control Services, riskcontrol@societyinsurance.com

150 Camelot Drive, P.O. Box 1029, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1029

P. 888.576.2438 | societyinsurance.com

This information is advisory, and it must not be assumed that it has detected all unsafe acts or conditions. This information is designed to assist you in recognizing potential safe work problems and not to establish compliance with any law, rule or regulation.

© 2017 Society Insurance



Small details. Big difference.™

