

SAFETY BULLETIN

TO: All Employees
FROM: Dean Argenta - Field Safety Coordinator
DATE: July 10, 2015
RE: Defensive Driving (Defensive Driving Council)



THE DDC COLLISION PREVENTION FORMULA

Team, I wanted to provide this Safety Bulletin to outline the three basic Defensive Driving Course (DDC) collision prevention steps. They are: Recognize, Understand, Act (RUA).

1. Recognize potential hazards
2. Understand the defense
3. Act correctly, in time

1. Recognize the hazard

- Scan ahead, around and behind your vehicle.
- In urban areas, scan one or two blocks ahead.
- In rural areas or on expressways, scan to the next hill, curve or overpass.

2. Understand the defense

- Know what to do to prevent a traffic hazard.
- Know the consequences of your driving choices.

Basic defenses:

- ★ Scan in all directions.
- ★ Slow down.
- ★ Usa a safe following distance.

3. Act correctly, in time

- Choose the safest driving maneuver to prevent a collision
- Remember - Other drivers may act in time, but they may act incorrectly.

Practicing these simple steps will minimize a vehicle incident

- Make safe and legal driving decisions.
- Create a stress free driving space.
- Practice common sense, courtesy and cooperation.

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3 TYPES OF DISTRACTIONS

- Manual distractions
 - Cause drivers to take their hands off the wheel - talking on a cell phone, texting and eating.
- Visual distractions
 - Cause drivers to take their eyes off the road, looking at other vehicles or objects on the roadway.
- Cognitive distractions
 - Cause drivers to take their minds off the road, thinking about work, school, family or talking to another person in the vehicle.

FATAL FOUR DRIVING BEHAVIORS

1. Speeding
 - a. - Excessive speed reduces the amount of time a driver has to react.
2. Right of Way
 - a. -Failing to Yield, rolling through a stop sign, blocking an intersection
3. Driving Left of Center
 - a. -Overtaking improperly.
4. Tailgating/ Following Too Closely
 - a. -Vehicle weight, road surface, weather conditions. To prevent collisions Keep at least 3 seconds of following distance in clear dry road conditions.
5. Texting / E-mailing while driving - **The use of text messaging or e-mail while driving is forbidden and punishable by termination.**
 - a. -Cell phone users are 4x as likely to crash
 - b. -Texting while driving is 23 times more likely to cause an accident than having an intoxicated driver behind the wheel.
 - c. Texting while driving is ranked as the most dangerous distraction.
 - d. The drivers steering capability decreases by 91% when texting while driving.
 - e. According to the government website, 3,092 people were killed due to distracted driving in 2010.
 - f. Sending or reading a text message takes on average of about 4.6 seconds.

SUMMARY

★ **Defensive driving is driving to save lives, time and money, in spite of the conditions around you and the actions of others.**

★ **Defensive driving is the responsibility of everyone who operates a vehicle.**

Please contact me at 570-903-2893 or DArgenta@scenv.com with any questions or comments on this Bulletin.