



# Weekly Safety Tip

“Your Connection for Workplace Safety”

Phone: 920-208-7520

*We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!*

*Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.*

*And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.*



**SCI SAFETY NEWS OR TIP**



**SCI OSHA NEWS OR COMPLIANCE**



**SCI HEALTHYLIVING and WELLNESS NEWS**

**We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.**

**Let us know how you feel about our new look!**

**Safety Slogan**

**Stay Alive – Think and Drive.**

**James Lehrke-SCI**

**of the week**

## SCI Safety Tip: Distracted Driving

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Date: April 5, 2013

Each day in the United States, more than 9 people are killed and more than 1,060 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver.<sup>1</sup> Distracted driving is driving while doing another activity that takes your attention away from driving. Distracted driving can increase the chance of a motor vehicle crash.

There are three main types of distraction:

1. **Visual:** taking your eyes off the road;
2. **Manual:** taking your hands off the wheel; and
3. **Cognitive:** taking your mind off what you are doing.<sup>2</sup>

Distracted driving activities include things like using a cell phone, texting, and eating. Using in-vehicle technologies (such as navigation systems) can also be sources of distraction. While any of these distractions can endanger the driver and others, texting while driving is especially dangerous because it combines all three types of distraction.<sup>2</sup>

### How big is the problem?

- In 2011, 3,331 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver, compared to 3,267 in 2010. An additional, 387,000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver in 2011, compared to 416,000 people injured in 2010.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2010, nearly one in five crashes (18%) in which someone was injured involved distracted driving.<sup>1</sup>
- In June 2011, more than 196 billion text messages were sent or received in the US, up nearly 50% from June 2009.<sup>1</sup>

A CDC study analyzed 2011 data on distracted driving, including talking, texting, and reading email behind the wheel. The researchers compared the prevalence of talking on a cell phone or texting while driving in the United States and seven European countries: Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom. Key findings included the following:

### Cell phone use while driving

- 69% of drivers in the United States ages 18-64 reported that they had talked on their cell phone while driving within the 30 days before they were surveyed.
- In Europe, this percentage ranged from 21% in the United Kingdom to 59% in Portugal.

**Invites You To Join Us At The Upcoming:**

**Permit & Reporting Workshop**

**Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup> 7:30-9:30 AM**

**At Black Wolf Run 1111 W Riverside Dr, Kohler, WI 53044**

**Are you confused about Wastewater, Air, or Tier II requirements?  
Need to brush up on the basics? We will have 3 agency reps onsite  
to answer your questions.**

**Come for breakfast & learn about the:  
General Wastewater & Air Emissions permits from the WI  
Department of Natural Resources**

**Tier II Chemical Inventory process from the Division of  
Emergency Management**

**This 2 hour workshop will be split into three segments showcasing  
each of the permit triggers, reporting processes, & provide an intro  
to the particular websites. Plus Q&A!**

**To register for this valuable & unique opportunity please email  
[Laura@safetyconnections.com](mailto:Laura@safetyconnections.com)**

**Cost is \$25 a person, Hurry, Space is limited!!  
\*Agency staff involvement is in no way an  
endorsement for SCI**

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**Texting or emailing while driving**

- 31% of U.S. drivers ages 18-64 reported that they had read or sent text messages or email messages while driving at least once within the 30 days before they were surveyed.
- In Europe, this percentage ranged from 15% in Spain to 31% in Portugal.

**What are the risk factors?**

- Some activities—such as texting—take the driver's attention away from driving more frequently and for longer periods than other distractions.<sup>3</sup>

- Younger, inexperienced drivers under the age of 20 may be at increased risk; they have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes.<sup>3</sup>

#### What is being done?

- Many states are enacting laws—such as banning texting while driving, or using graduated driver licensing systems for teen drivers—to help raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving and to keep it from occurring.<sup>4</sup> However, the effectiveness of cell phone and texting laws on decreasing distracted driving-related crashes requires further study.
- On September 30, 2009, President Obama issued an executive order prohibiting federal employees from texting while driving on government business or with government equipment.<sup>5</sup>
- On October 27, 2010, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration enacted a ban that prohibits commercial vehicle drivers from texting while driving.<sup>6</sup>

#### References

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Facts and Statistics. <http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/facts-and-statistics.html>. Accessed February 13, 2013.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, September 2010. Publication no. DOT-HS-811-379. Available from <http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/index.html>. Accessed June 27, 2011.

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Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Limiting the Use of Wireless Communication Devices. Washington DC: US Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 2011. Available from: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/>. Accessed June 27, 2011.

## SCI OSHA Compliance: Don't Get Caught in the Trap—Prepare for OSHA Inspections (Part 2)

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: March 27, 2013

- **Review the regulations** relating to all the different operations in your facility to make sure you are in compliance with the *most recent* rules.
- **Select an employee representative** who will meet with and accompany the inspector during the inspection, along with management representatives. Make sure these individuals are knowledgeable about every aspect of your operation, your safety program, the layout of your facility, and the inspection process.
- **Educate management.** Be sure your management representatives are knowledgeable about every aspect of your operation, your environmental health and safety program, the layout of your facility, and the inspection process.
- **Review previous inspections.** Be familiar with previous inspection reports, as well as documentation regarding steps taken to correct previous violations.
- **Identify agency decision makers.** Learn about agency organization and leadership. Find out who's who and who does what. Learn about headquarters and regional office authorities. Identify the roles of division chiefs and directors, and the specific bureaus driving agency policy.
- **Plan ahead** for agency meetings. Avoid pointless, premature meetings with high-level agency officials who always rely on staff reviews anyway.



What do you think?  
Send us an email at:  
[jlconnections@aol.com](mailto:jlconnections@aol.com)  
See our bold new look @  
<http://www.safetyconnections.com/>

In Loving  
Memory of Jessica  
Lehrke