

Health and Safety Advice Sheet

008 – Global Road Safety Week 2007

Global Road Safety Week



**ROAD SAFETY
IS NO ACCIDENT**

Background

Growing concern, from both the United Nations General Assembly and the World Health Assembly, over the problem of road traffic injuries has resulted in the introduction of Global Road Safety Week (GRSW), which is to take place from 23rd April to 29th April 2007.

The Vision

The first United Nations Global Road Safety Week will provide the opportunity to raise the issues of road traffic injuries to a higher level. It is expected that hundreds of initiatives – local, national, regional and global – will take place around the world, organised by both government and non-government organisations, United Nations and other international agencies, as well as private sector companies and foundations. It is hoped the week will provide a platform to launch new effective road safety initiatives which will be continued and developed in the years ahead.



The Theme

Children and young people make up a high proportion of the nearly 1.2 million people killed on the world's roads each year. Globally 40% of all road traffic deaths occur among people aged 0 – 25 years, which shows that children and young people constitute a major group at risk of death, injury and disability on the roads. As a result the first GRSW will be dedicated to the 'young road user'. While the focus of the week will be on improving safety for children and young people, the actions resulting from the week, such as initiatives to reduce drink-driving and excessive speeding, will benefit road users of all ages.

Key Messages

- Road traffic injuries are a major global public health and development problem
- Road traffic accidents greatly impact on young lives
- Road traffic injuries can be prevented
- Road safety is no accident
- International cooperation is crucial to strengthening national road safety efforts

Scottish Water Solutions - Management of Road Risk (MORR)

In conjunction with Global Road Safety Week Scottish Water Solutions are launching the new Health and Safety Arrangement (H&SA) for Management of Road Risk which contains practical information for all Staff who drive either a company owned or hired vehicle (provided by the parent organisation) or their own vehicle on company business. The procedure also includes guidance for Line Managers to provide support to their personnel.

The guidance given is not intended to replace any of parent company's or agency's procedures. Indeed, where a parent company / agency have a policy and procedure for managing road risk, that procedure must be followed. For more information please view the H&S web pages or discuss with your local Health and Safety Advisor.

Staff should ensure that they -

- Are fit to drive and legally qualified for the type of vehicle to be driven and the activities to be undertaken
- Have a relevant current licence
- They satisfy the relevant insurance requirements where necessary (i.e. business cover)
- Drive in a safe manner at all times by ensuring compliance with the Highway Code and implement the applicable requirements of this H&SA 019 – Management of Occupational Road Risk
- Do not drive while under the influence of Alcohol or Drugs
- Inform their manager of any condition, for example, medication, ill health, deterioration eyesight (not corrected by spectacles) that may effect their ability to drive safely, there may also be a requirement for them to inform the DVLA
- Inform their manager of any driving situation that is believed represents a serious risk to their health and safety, for example excessive hours, adverse weather conditions
- Use the vehicle and associated equipment in the correct way, carry out the appropriate vehicle checks as per manufacturers instructions
- Report all mechanical defects found in accordance with their parent company instructions
- Report all accidents and incidents whilst driving at work as per company procedure
- Inform their manager if they are injured while driving at work
- Undertake any assessments or training identified by their parent company

A Real Sorry Tale
(A poem for young, or intending, young motorists)
By Jimmy Sinclair (Age 94½) Road Safety Supporter

*Wee Jock was drivin' awfy fast
His Mither said "ye winna last!"
But wee Jock said tae his Mither
"When this life's ower, A'll get anither".*

*He widnae listen tae his Maw,
He crashed intae a great big wa'
He said "Crivvens, Help ma Boab,
A'll hae te walk noo, tae ma joab".*

*The Law didnae like his plea
His licence is noo doon at Swansea
The cops hae geen him a hefty fine
He'll maybe even dae some time*

*This no hae'in a car, Jock didnae like,
It's either walk or tak the bike
But, maybe safer for a' o' us,
When he decides tae tak a bus.*

*Wi' bairns runnin' roond the park
Or playing peevers after dark
When we're heading fur the toon
We'll ken Jock winnae ca' us doon.*