

LOSS CONTROL INSIGHTS

www.emcins.com | SPRING 2014



NEED TO KNOW

EXPAND YOUR SAFETY KNOWLEDGE WITH NEW MATERIALS

Need quick and easy content for communicating safety messages? You can find it in a new book, *Principles to Practice: Safety Talking Points*, from David Lynn, CSP, president of Signature Services for Life & Safety Consultants, Inc. This pocket-sized book contains material on 103 safety topics that will help expand or reinforce your safety and health knowledge. In addition, Lynn released the DL Alert app in September 2013, which allows you to take a photo of a hazard and embed it in a template (such as a Best Practice template, a Hazard Alert template or Safety Alert template) for more efficient communication to your employees. Learn more about these valuable safety tools at www.david-lynn.com.

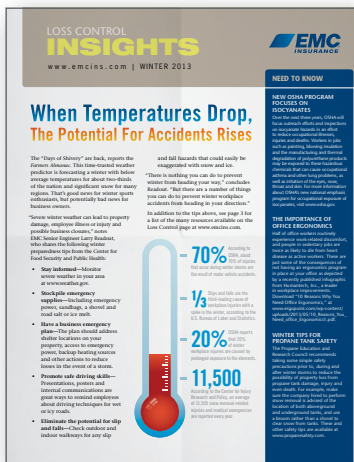
NEW STUDY FOCUSES ON DRIVER BEHAVIORS

A recently released study from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that almost half of all drivers believe speeding is a problem. According to the "National Survey of Speeding Attitudes and Behavior," one in five drivers admitted to going as fast as they can when they are going somewhere. The NHTSA survey showed various other driver behaviors as well:

- Eighty percent of drivers believe that driving at or near the speed limit reduced the chance of a crash occurring.
- Ninety-one percent of drivers agreed with the statement "everyone should obey the speed limit because it's the law."
- Forty-eight percent of drivers found it very important that something is done to reduce speeding on U.S. roads.
- Of those surveyed, male drivers and those ages 16–20 admitted to speeding the most over the past five years, and 11 percent of drivers in the 16–20 age group were involved in a speeding-related crash.

You can view the complete report at www.nhtsa.gov.

Insights Makes The Move From Paper To Digital



Beginning in June



This is the final issue of *Loss Control Insights* that will be delivered to your mailbox.

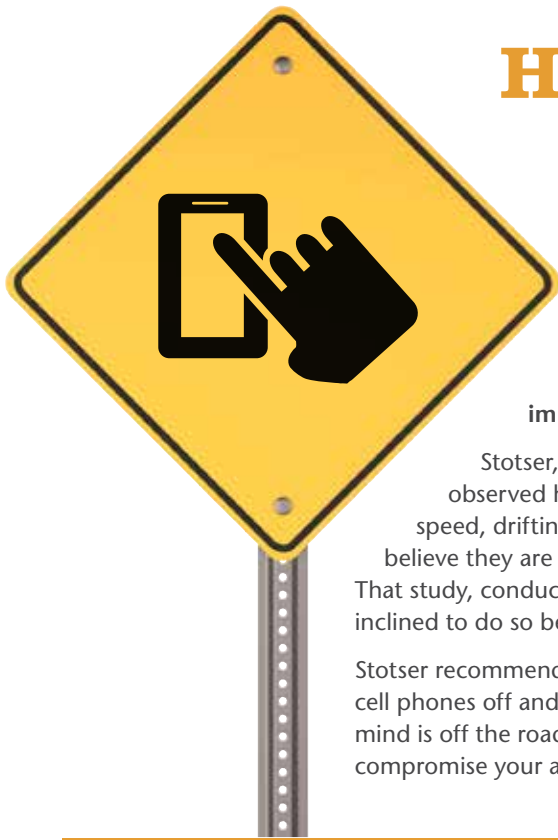
Beginning in June, this valuable source of loss control information will go straight to your inbox to be viewed online. According to editor Jerry Loghry, the change provides a number of benefits to you as a reader of *Loss Control Insights*:

- Access to more timely loss control topics delivered monthly
- More interactive user experiences with valuable links, videos and graphics
- The ability to quickly share information with your staff

"The mission of *Loss Control Insights* will not change," notes Loghry. "We remain committed to bringing you loss control information to help reduce the frequency and severity of workplace injuries. The only difference is, you'll get that information more frequently and more conveniently."

SIGN UP
for Loss Control News

Go to www.emcins.com/losscontrol to start receiving the new electronic version of *Loss Control Insights* in June. Click **Sign Up for Loss Control News** in the bottom left corner. If you prefer, you can send your email address to your EMC loss control representative or email losscontrol@emcins.com.



How Good Are Drivers At Multitasking?

When people tell EMC Senior Safety Engineer Jim Stotser that they are good drivers, his first question is usually, “What does that mean?” According to Stotser, being a good driver is more than arriving safely at your destination. “It also means thinking about how your driving may impact other drivers along the way.”

Stotser, who logs an average of 5,000 miles a month on the road for EMC, has observed his fair share of self-described “good” drivers unable to maintain a steady speed, drifting from lane to lane or changing lanes without signaling. “These drivers may believe they are capable of multitasking, but a recent study proved differently,” notes Stotser. That study, conducted by the University of Utah, revealed that drivers who multitask may be inclined to do so because they have difficulty focusing on even a single task.

Stotser recommends policyholders adopt a distraction-free driving policy. “That means turning cell phones off and keeping them out of reach when on the road,” advises Stotser. “Anytime your mind is off the road, whether it’s talking on a cell phone, eating or fiddling with your radio, you compromise your ability to be the good driver you believe yourself to be.”

Other Myths About Multitasking And Driving

Myth: Talking to someone on a cell phone is no more distracting than talking to someone in the car.



Reality: A 2008 study by the University of Utah found that drivers distracted by cell phones are more oblivious to changing traffic conditions because they are the only ones in the conversation who are aware of the road.

In contrast, drivers with adult passengers in their cars have an extra set of eyes and ears to help alert the driver about oncoming traffic problems. Adult passengers also tend to talk less when traffic is challenging. People on the other end of a driver’s cell phone are not aware of traffic challenges.



Myth: Hands-free devices eliminate the danger of cell phone use during driving.

Reality: Whether the phone is handheld or hands-free, cell phone conversations while

driving are risky because the distraction that conversation causes to the brain remains the same. Drivers talking on cell phones can miss seeing up to 50 percent of their driving environments, including pedestrians and red lights. This phenomenon is also known as “inattention blindness.”



Myth: Drivers talking on cell phones have a quicker reaction time than those who are driving under the influence.

Reality: A controlled driving simulator study conducted by the University of Utah found that drivers using cell phones had slower reaction times than drivers with a .08 blood alcohol content, the legal intoxication limit.

[Source: National Safety Council]

INSIGHTS ONLINE



SCHOOLS

Improving Food Service Safety

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention developed a new surveillance system and an e-learning course to help organizations investigate illness outbreaks in food services. Learn what this new tool means for our kitchens.

Stop Bullying In Your School

School bullying statistics show that about one in four kids in the United States is bullied repeatedly. The best way to address the problem is to stop it before it starts. Learn how to help prevent bullying at www.stopbullying.gov.



PETROLEUM MARKETERS

New Technologies For Gas Detection Programs

Essential data stored within gas detectors can help increase workplace safety, but often gets overlooked. Learn how new technologies can help you better manage the data in your gas detection program.

Are You Prepared For New Hydrogen Sulfide Guidelines?

A new survey from the American Society of Safety Engineers and Dräger confirms the need for additional education and training about the new guidelines for exposure to hydrogen sulfide. Learn more about protecting your workers from this hazard.

Take A Hands-On Approach To Hand Safety

“The news must be spreading,” says EMC Safety Engineer Kody Daniel, who sees more employers implementing loss control strategies to protect workers’ hands. The news Daniel is referring to is a 2013 National Safety Council study that reported injuries to the hands (wrist and fingers included) represented 16.5 percent of workplace injuries in 2010. In addition, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that approximately 110,000 workers with hand and finger injuries lose days away from work each year, second only to back strain and sprain.



Four Hand Safety Strategies

- 1. Know the risks:** The risk of hand injury is significantly elevated when equipment or tools do not perform as expected or when workers use a different work method, perform an unusual task, or are distracted, rushed or ill.
- 2. Choose the right personal protective equipment (PPE):** If engineering or administrative controls don’t reduce potential hazards, provide employees with appropriate PPE, such as gloves, which have been proven to be most effective in reducing hand injuries.
- 3. Check hand tools:** Inspect hand tools for wear and tear like broken or cracked parts, dull blades and other deterioration that could result in hand injuries.
- 4. Educate workers:** In addition to training employees how to safely use machinery or tools that could result in hand injuries, you should make them aware of the proper use and maintenance of any PPE.

Count on EMC® for a variety of online resources to help promote hand safety in your workplace. Visit www.emcins.com/losscontrol/topics/Hand_Safety.aspx.



CONTRACTORS

How To Confidentially File Complaints With OSHA

A new online form provides workers with an additional way to file a complaint with OSHA without fear of retaliation. Learn more about this form designed to protect workers and the public.

New Safety Video Focuses On Crane Electrocutation

Each year, an average of 15 electrocutions are caused by contact between cranes or similar boomed vehicles and energized overhead power lines. A new OSHA video, based on real-life incidents, is a powerful way to alert your workers of the dangers and how to reduce the likelihood of such accidents.



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Cancer And Firefighters

Firefighters are more likely to develop certain types of cancer than the general population, according to a recent study from the U.S. Fire Administration. Read more about the cancer risks firefighters face.

Managing Office Ergonomics

Emerging technologies and ever-changing employee needs are making it more important than ever to use proven methods to manage modern office ergonomics. Read some practical tips on how to avoid office ergonomics failures.

On The Road With Justin Roeglin



Controlling a hazard at its source is the best way to protect employees. However, when engineering, work practice and administrative

controls do not provide sufficient protection. Employers must provide personal protective equipment (PPE) for their employees and ensure its proper use.

“Developing a comprehensive PPE program is the best way to make certain your employees have and are using appropriate PPE,” advises EMC Safety Engineer Justin Roeglin. According to Roeglin, such a program should include:

- Performing a hazard assessment of the workplace to identify physical and health hazards
- Identifying and providing appropriate PPE for employees
- Training employees on the use and care of PPE
- Maintaining PPE, including replacing worn or damaged PPE
- Periodically reviewing, updating and evaluating the effectiveness of the PPE program

“With few exceptions, OSHA now requires employers to pay for PPE used to comply with OSHA standards,” notes Roeglin. Among the PPE that employers must pay for are metatarsal foot protection; nonprescription eye protection; goggles and face shields; firefighting PPE; hard hats; hearing protection; and welding PPE. Roeglin encourages employers to review current OSHA standards at www.osha.gov when developing a PPE program.

For complete industry updates, visit www.emcins.com, select **Loss Control** on the homepage and then **Insights Newsletter**.

**THE
BEST
IN LOSS
CONTROL:**

**Now Playing On A Monitor Near You:
EMC's Streaming Video Library**

Forget about waiting for your safety videos to arrive in the mail. Now you can point and click to get the video you need when you need it. EMC's new streaming safety video library offers more than 400 high-quality videos to satisfy your safety and compliance training needs.

Click the Safety Video link at www.emcins.com/losscontrol, and you'll be connected to an easy-to-navigate catalog, giving you 24/7 access to streaming safety videos about various industries and topics. The library is available free of charge to EMC commercial policyholders. *Count on EMC®* to make important safety training more convenient for you and your employees.

**What's New In
Our Video Library**

EMC's video library is updated on a regular basis. Check out these latest additions:

- Personal Protective Equipment: Your Last Line Of Defense!
- Personal Protective Equipment: Real Accidents, Real Stories
- Distracted Driving: Real Accidents, Real Stories II
- Drowsy Driving: It's Your Wake Up Call
- Groundskeeping Safety



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IN THIS ISSUE:

- *Insights* Makes The Move From Paper To Digital
- How Good Are Drivers At Multitasking?
- Take A Hands-On Approach To Hand Safety
- Introducing EMC's Streaming Video Training

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