

GEORGIA STRUCK-BY HAZARDS ALLIANCE PARTICIPANTS

Georgia Highway Contractors Association, Inc.

Celebrating 69 Years of Service



FHWA Georgia Division



Alliance Goals

- To prevent highway construction and utility worker fatalities and serious injuries at work zone and construction sites.
- Educate exposed workers about highway work zone workplace safety and health.
- Strengthen public knowledge on highway and work zone hazards.

Work Zone Facts

- In 2008, 720 work zone fatalities occurred in the U.S:
 - One fatality every 12 hours nationwide (2.0 per day)
 - One injury every 17 minutes nationally (86 per day)
- Work zone fatalities decreased by 14% and injuries decreased 25% from 2007
- More than 31,079 people are injured each year as a result of motor vehicle crashes in work zones.
- Of the 720 work zone fatalities, 550 were in construction zones, 69 were in maintenance zones, 14 were in utility zones, and 87 were in an unknown type work zone.
- Currently all states have adopted laws that increase penalties for speeding or committing other violations in work zones.
 - 33 states double fines for speeding or other violation
 - 23 states require workers to be present to enforce penalty increase

Work Zone Facts By The Numbers

	Total	Vehicle occupants	Pedestrians	Pedalcyclists	Other Nonmotorists
Killed	720	587	119	5	9
Injured	31,079	29,120	1,216	706	37



Night Work

Night operations changes the work environment

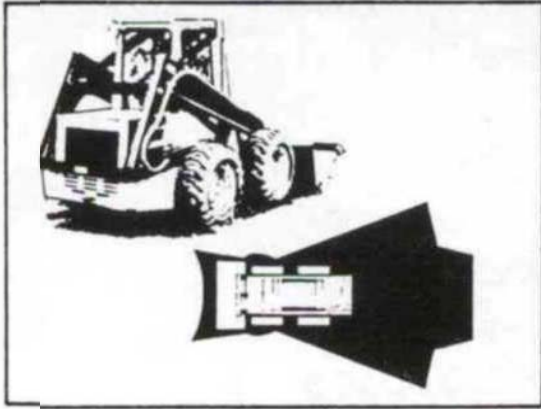
On the worksite

- Poor visibility for both motorists and workers
- Communicate between shifts
- Impaired or drowsy drivers

Physical and social disruptions

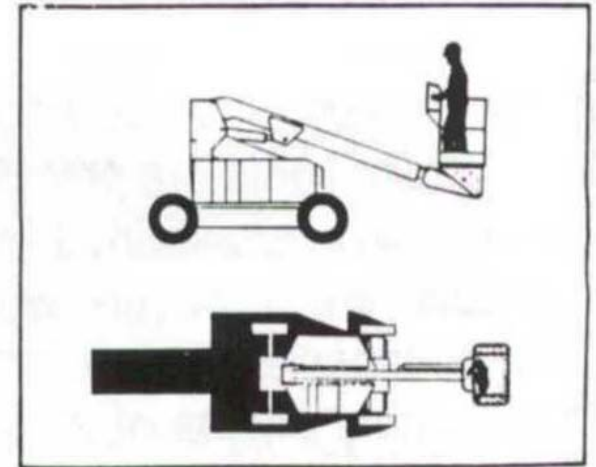
- Sleep disruption
- Risk of injury from drowsiness
- Impaired family/social relationships

Blind Spots



- Treat equipment and vehicles with caution
- Stay outside a safety circle around equipment
- Stay clear of vehicles, know the traffic control plan

- Stay in constant communication with operators by radio and/or eye contact
- Don't approach equipment until you have communicated with the operator and they acknowledge you
- Use spotters when you must work with your back to traffic or equipment



Blind Spots

- Ensure back up alarms are on all mobile equipment
- When possible, plan project to allow for drive-through operations that will limit the need for vehicles to back up
- The signal person must know the operator's blind spots and remain visible to the operator at all times
- The signal person must use clearly understood hand signals or standard traffic control devices
- When operating equipment know the blind spots and swing radius
- Reduce foot traffic in areas where mobile equipment will be working; establish designated travel areas with barricades if possible

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ANSI/ISEA 107 – 2010 Compliant High Visibility Safety Apparel



Example of non compliant vest



- 2009 MUTCD requires all workers to wear **“ANSI CLASS 2 and/or 3 compliant high visibility safety apparel ONLY”**
 - on all federal-aid right of ways
 - and any road or street, public or private; that the public has travel access to
- Compliant apparel should insure 360 degree worker visibility
 - However, vests with just 2 reflective bands around the body and no reflective bands over the shoulder no longer meets the ANSI standard or the 2009 MUTCD requirements (see example of non compliant vests below)

Apparel should be inspected regularly to insure color has not faded or retroreflective properties are not lost

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ANSI/ISEA 107 – 2010 Compliant High Visibility Safety Apparel



Example of non compliant vest



- Choose background material colors to contrast the worker to their work environment
- Worker visibility can be effectively increased by wearing class 3 high-visibility safety apparel
 - class E trousers worn in combination with a class 2 vest or tee shirt equals a class 3 ensemble
 - arm/leg bands, caps/hats and hard hats can add to delineation of the human shape
 - compliant short or long sleeved tee shirts (class 2 and/or 3)

Operator Safety Best Practices

Unload and operate equipment only if qualified

Inspect equipment before use

Test backup alarm and other safety devices

Know blind spots and swing radius

Use seatbelts

Use 3 points of contact when entering and exiting equipment

Look for other moving equipment and vehicles

Wipe up grease and fluids on equipment walking/working surfaces

Runovers and Backovers

Remain alert at all times

Check surroundings often, listen for warnings

Keep a safe distance from traffic

Stay behind protective barriers, where possible

Look out for each other, warn co-workers



Utility Operations

Includes:

All entities/agencies that perform utility work, such as departments of transportation's maintenance divisions, local county and city road agencies.

Utility work involving electric, gas, water and telecommunications

- Takes place on urban and rural roadways
- Typically stationary work
- Occupies a location more than 1 hour but less than 12
- Impacts traffic flow

Above Ground Utilities

Use extreme caution and keep your distance !!!

- Ensure lines are marked, flagged and shielded
- Assume it is live, until tested – have it de-energized and visibly grounded
- If it must remain energized, keep equipment and load at least 10 feet away and use a spotter to warn the equipment operator
- Post signs at ground level to mark safe distance
- Make all drivers and workers who enter area aware of overhead lines
- Operators make a safe route for repeated travel
- Slow down

Surveyor Protection from the Public

- Wear high visibility vests at all times and other appropriate personal protective equipment during operations where you are exposed to hazardous conditions.
- Face traffic when working on the traveled way of a divided road or shoulders of highways. If not possible, have a co-worker act as a lookout.
- When working between two-way traffic, stand parallel to the traveled way and use a co-worker as a lookout.
- Don't make sudden moves that may confuse a motorist and cause them to react suddenly and cause injury.
- Avoid interrupting traffic as much as possible.
- Minimize the crossing of traffic lanes on undivided highways.

Surveyor Protection from the Public

- Protect your crew with the use of approved barriers to shield them from traffic.
- Whenever possible, place a truck-mounted attenuator between your workers and traffic.
- When working near a heavily traveled highway, or working parallel to traffic, be careful to keep level rods, range poles, and such from extending into a lane of traffic.
- Take special care when working on wet pavement in an active traffic area.
- Install warning signs prior to the start of all survey work that is on pavement and within 15 feet of the edge of the traveled way. Use them the entire time you are working in traffic. Since surveyors constantly move on the highway, be sure to move warning signs as the work progresses.

YOU ARE ALSO THE PUBLIC

Tips to Remember When YOU Drive in a Work Zone

- **EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!**
 - Reduced speed limits, lane changes, workers on or near road.
- **SLOW DOWN!**
 - Obey posted speed limits.
- **DON'T TAILGATE! KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CAR AHEAD OF YOU!**
 - Rear end collisions - most common crash in a work zone
- **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOUR VEHICLE AND THE WORKERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT!**
- **PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS!**
 - Warning signs help drivers move safely through the work zone.
 - Observe signs until you see one saying you've left the work zone.

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- **OBEY ROAD CREW FLAGGERS!**
 - Flaggers know what is best for moving traffic safely and have the same authority as a sign – you can be cited for disobeying their directions
- **STAY ALERT AND MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS!**
 - Avoid changing the radio or using cell phones while driving through a work zone.
- **KEEP UP WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW!**
 - Motorists help maintain traffic flow and speeds by merging smoothly.
 - Don't slow to “gawk” at road work equipment and crews.
- **SCHEDULE ENOUGH TIME TO DRIVE SAFELY!**
 - Expect delays. Leave early to reach your destination on time.
 - Check radio, TV and websites for work zone delays.
- **BE PATIENT AND STAY CALM!**
 - Work zones aren't there to inconvenience you.