

Driving-Related Hazards

Consider the hazard sources below along with the helpful hints to identify the driving-related hazards in your workplace. Then classify hazards using three categories: the driver, the vehicle and the journey.



Physical		Hints for Identifying Driving-Related Hazards
Objects	a sharp rock, wildlife, worn tire or faulty brake, unsecured objects in the vehicle	<p>To become more familiar with the hazards your drivers face, try the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speak with the drivers. What practices, locations or situations do they consider “dangerous”? 2. Go for a ride-along. Experience the conditions and circumstances your drivers encounter. 3. Check vehicle inspection reports. What mechanical issues do you see or hear about? 4. Review near-miss reports and incident investigations. What caused or contributed to those events? 5. Check the owner’s manual. Review operating instructions and watch for “Caution” labels and “Hazard” symbols. 6. Think about non-routine and high-risk driving circumstances. What dangers are there? 7. Talk with other employers. What are their biggest roads safety challenges? 8. Who could be harmed? Aside from the driver, who else could be harmed – their passengers, other motorists, pedestrians or cyclists? 9. Use the team approach. Get the input and advice of the people that drive in those environments. Be resourceful. Ask questions. 10. Be systematic. Driving environments change; so do the hazards that drivers encounter. Use a system to identify those hazards and evaluate, prioritize and track associated risks.
Substances	carbon monoxide, drugs, alcohol, fuel and hazardous fluids	
Materials	gravel road surface, ice	
Temperature	extreme hot or cold temperatures, touching a hot surface	
Energy		
Kinetic	the speed and mass of your vehicle, or another vehicle	
Gravity	car falling off jack, un-chocked vehicle rolls forward	
Electrical	shock from an incorrect jumper cable connection	
Noise	prolonged exposure to a loud exhaust system	
Pressure	compressed air or hydraulic fluid	
Conditions, processes and practices		
fatigued driver, poor traction, insufficient lighting or visibility, stressful driving circumstances		
insufficient driver training, lack of vehicle inspections or maintenance		
overloading vehicle; high-risk driving behaviours (speeding, following too close, texting while driving); poor ergonomics (improperly adjusted seat)		

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