



Safety Management Action Reduction Targeting

CONSTRUCTION ZONES

In trucking, we tend to have only two seasons: winter and road construction. With the snow finally melting, construction zones are starting to bud like tree leaves presenting a serious hazard for the entire motoring public. A significant percentage of accidents involving large trucks happen in construction zones.

Hazards in construction zones include congestion, poorly marked narrow lanes, frequent and sudden stops, merging traffic, and workers who may inadvertently step into your path. There are many things you can do before, during, and after construction zones to help assure you get through safely.

1. **Before the construction zone** – Watch closely for speeding motorists that may cut in front of your vehicle; be prepared to make room for these people. Carefully read the warning signs for instruction on which lane to drive in and adjust your speed.
2. **Inside the construction zone** – Maintain a proper following distance, and be ready for sudden slow-down areas on the road ahead. Watch out for workers or construction equipment that may cross into your lane. Adverse conditions, such as blowing dirt and debris, require lower speeds to get through safely.
3. **After the construction zone** – Watch out for impatient drivers that may quickly change lanes and pass without warning. Be patient and accelerate at your own pace.

Exercising Proper Driving Technique in construction zones:

- Do not tailgate
- Pay attention to other drivers' actions
- Do not get distracted by happenings in the construction zone
- Drive within the posted speed limit
- Slow down if visibility is limited
- Maintain patience
- Do not give in to road rage
- Drive conservatively
- Remember: road construction is a fact of life. We need good roads.
- Drive to protect the amateur motorist...you're the professional

