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Distracted Driving Safety

Did you know that texting while driving is one of the most dangerous things you can do behind the wheel? In fact, you are six times more likely to crash while texting than you are while driving drunk.

Now, this is not an endorsement for drunk driving, rather a warning that distracted driving can be just as dangerous, especially while working on a busy construction site.

Why is texting on the construction site such an issue?

Distractions in the workplace have always been an issue since the beginning of time. However, cell phones—especially smart-phones—have created a whole new level of distractedness. Texting or browsing on your phone while working is an unsafe act that can affect your productivity on the job, while also placing you at a larger risk for accidents and injuries.

Distracted driving statistics:

Those who do not work in the construction industry may be completely unaware how much driving is involved. Of course, you drive back and forth from workplace to workplace, but you also frequently need to drive to transport materials or people.

Texting while driving, especially texting while driving utility vehicles or heavy machinery, not only places you at risk, but puts everyone around you at risk too.

Here are some statistics about texting while driving:

The National Safety Council reports that cell phone use while driving leads to 1.6 million crashes each year.

Nearly 330,000 injuries occur each year from accidents caused by texting while driving.

1 out of every 4 car accidents in the United States is caused by texting and driving.

Texting while driving is 6 times more likely to cause an accident than driving drunk.

Answering a text takes away your attention for about five seconds. Traveling at 55 mph, which is enough time to travel the length of a football field.

Texting while driving causes a 400% increase in time spent with eyes off the road.

As you can see, texting while driving increases the likelihood of an accident expeditiously.

The same can be said for texting while on the job. Remember, this is not a desk job.

Construction work requires you to be around dangerous tools and heavy machinery that can cause serious injury if not handled with care and attention.