



Safe Driving Practices for Oilfield Vehicles

What this Safety Talk Covers:

- ✓ The “Dos” and “Don’ts” for safely driving vehicles in the oilfield.

Discussion Notes:

- ✓ Discuss the outcomes of the “Dos” and “Don’ts.”

- Do**
- Ensure all workers are trained in operating any vehicle or equipment before beginning work. Heavy machinery, such as drilling rigs, trucks and cranes, each have unique hazards and blind spots that workers should be trained in before operating.
 - Use appropriate lighting and signaling devices to ensure visibility, especially during nighttime operations. Dust, smoke and other environmental factors can reduce visibility in oilfield areas and should be accounted for when considering visibility.
 - Consider wildlife when driving. In some regions, deer, wild pigs or other animals may be active near oilfield work areas, increasing the risk of collisions. Workers should be vigilant and reduce speed in areas where wildlife is known to be present.
 - Regularly inspect vehicles for any signs of wear and tear, including tire condition, brake functionality and fluid levels. Promptly address any issues to ensure vehicles are safe to operate.
 - Use communication devices such as two-way radios or hand signals to communicate with other drivers and workers in the area.
- Don’t**
- Engage in hard braking or hard cornering. Abrupt maneuvers like hard braking and hard cornering can destabilize vehicles, particularly on the uneven terrain often found in oilfields. Avoid sudden maneuvers and strive to maintain control of your vehicle to prevent rollovers and collisions.
 - Overload vehicles. Overloading a vehicle beyond its specified capacity can affect vehicle stability and increase the risk of accidents.
 - Use cell phones, eat or engage in other distractions while driving. Distracted driving reduces reaction time and increases the likelihood of accidents.
 - Drive while fatigued. Long hours and demanding schedules in the oil industry can lead to fatigue among workers. Fatigue can impair judgement and reaction times, raising the risk of accidents on the road. Prioritize rest and take breaks as needed.

TXOGA Safety Talks are provided for the benefit of Texas Oil & Gas Association members participating in the TXOGA Workers’ Comp. Safety Group.



Employee Quiz

Topic: Safe Driving Practices for Oilfield Vehicles

Employee Name: _____

Circle the correct answer below.

1. Visibility on an oilfield can be impacted by:
 - a. Dust
 - b. Time of day
 - c. Smoke
 - d. All of the above
2. Abrupt maneuvers like hard braking and hard cornering can:
 - a. Destabilize a vehicle
 - b. Stabilize a vehicle
 - c. Put wildlife at risk
 - d. All of the above
3. Which of the following can impair reaction times?
 - a. Fatigue
 - b. Eating while driving
 - c. Using a cell phone while driving
 - d. All of the above
4. You should not overload a vehicle beyond:
 - a. The midpoint from front to back
 - b. The midpoint from top to bottom
 - c. Its specified capacity
 - d. The expected capacity
5. When inspecting a vehicle, if you see signs of wear and tear, you should report it by the end of the week.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____
Trainer: _____ Title: _____