The ABC’s of Work Zone Safety
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Do you know your ABC’s?

- A. ACCOUNTABLE
  Holding everyone accountable to make safety of our community a priority

- B. BEHAVIOR
  Helping change the behaviors of workers and the motoring public

- C. COURAGE
  Encourage employees to vocalize safety concerns

KEY TOPICS:

- Statistics (Why? Because safety guys love stats)
- Dangers to Work Zones
- CRH Work Zone Best Practice/Mitigation
- Closing (Nap Time)
Work Zone Fatal Crashes/Fatalities

According to workzonesafety.org in 2017 there were a total of:

- 710 fatal crashes in work zones (Previous 3-year average was 649.7)
- 799 total fatalities (Previous 3-year average was 721)
- 132 *Worker Fatalities* (Previous 3-year average: 130.7)

*These numbers have increased over the last 10 years.*

Dangers to Work Zones

**MOTORING PUBLIC**

- Distracted Drivers
- The "Unconscious Driver"
- Under the influence
- New Drivers
- Out of towners

**WORKZONE EMPLOYEE**

- Distracted Employee
- Technology/Texting
- Human error
- Road rage
- Overconfident drivers
- Out of towners

Quick Tidbit

Microsoft Corporation Study: found that technology is improving our ability to stay focused.

1. Humans attention span had fallen from twelve seconds to eight seconds
2. The study was done on 210 people that aged 18 to 65. It found that people who use their phone the most regularly have a shorter attention span.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), distracted driving is the leading cause of deaths on our roadways.
Improved Compliance/Regulation?

- Has harsher penalties to the motoring public made driving safer?
- Do new and stringent regulations drive safety compliance?

*Compliance with all the laws and regulations alone will not provide the safest work environment!*

Work Zone Safety/Best Practices

Risk Assessments

- Job/task with a pre-shift/task briefing to assess the job and discuss actions required of the team. If/when conditions change crews are required to meet again.
- Best Practices for mitigating the effects of work zone intrusions:
  - Internal Traffic Control Plans
  - Equipment location
  - Cone/Device Placement
  - Traffic Control Checklists

Worker Visibility

Personal Protective Equipment:

- ANSI Class III High-Vis apparel is worn by all employees while on a project site during the day or night.
- ANSI Class III vest and Class E Pants or retro-reflective ankle & wrist bands are required for night work.
- Retro-reflective material applied to the employee’s hard hat while working at night visible from 300 ft.
- Halo lights when performing work with low light.
The End
Goal...

Class VIII
Star
Bright

Work Zone Safety / Best Practices
Equipment Visibility

- Enhanced lighting for night work
- Glare free balloon lights
- Adjustable LED blade lights
- All lights working – markers, clearance, spots, etc.
- Make sure all lights and lenses are cleaned for maximum brightness
- Back up alarms – Must be able to be heard over all construction related noise
- Reflective tape – all sides of equipment – cleaned every night
- Slow moving vehicle triangles (as applicable)

Work Zone Safety / Best Practices
Work zone intrusion devices

AWARE SENTRY (Flagger Cart)
Why I’m passionate about work zone safety

Remember Steve?
* Steve was helping QC employee fill cooler with hot mix asphalt.
* A third-party driver under the influence drove around barricades into closed lanes and struck Steve and his coworker.
* The coworker sustained minor injuries; Steve’s injuries were fatal.

- Work Zone inspection revealed that traffic control was set properly and exceeded ODOT specification
- There was also an off-duty sheriff in closed lane with lights activated
- Steve and his co-worker were outfitted with Proper PPE: Class 3 Vest, Reflective leg bands, and Halo lights

Continue to...

National Efforts
- Push Legislation
- Public Education (community effort)

Local Efforts
- Compliance
- Tracking
- Push Innovation
- Work with state associations
  - Share best practices
Steve Cook

Now you know your ABC’s

Thank you

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