

TAKE CONTROL

Vehicle Accident

This information bulletin has been produced to assist in the prevention of workplace injury and disease. By identifying causes and assessing and controlling risks you can take control of health and safety in your workplace.

Risk indicators in the workplace

Some things to look for include:

- Employees working long shifts and driving for long periods without breaks;
- Uncomfortable, difficult to drive vehicles (for example, lack of leg room, non-adjustable seating, poorly positioned or maintained foot pedals or hand controls);
- Poorly maintained vehicles;
- No attention given to driver instruction and training;
- Vehicles not fitted with reliable indicators of speed or reliable lights.

Examples of what can be done to stop such occurrences from happening

- Safe driving procedures are developed and implemented;
- Defensive driver training of drivers is carried out for the types of vehicles they drive;
- All company cars and vans are fitted with adequate safety features, such as rear eye level brake lights, easily adjustable wing mirrors and properly fitted and functioning seat belts;
- All vehicles have regular maintenance services and safety checks;
- People whose main job is not driving, but who nevertheless drive a company vehicle, have a current driver's licence and the ability to drive the company vehicle safely.
- Timetables and schedules are monitored so as to allow adequate time to drive the distances needed;
- When purchasing vehicles, time is taken to assess the suitability of the vehicle for the work to be performed and the need for any special features.

To find out more

The [Workplace Health and Safety Act](#) and the [Workplace Health and Safety Regulations](#) outline the minimum standards and the process to manage occupational health and safety in your workplace.

Specific regulations to note in respect of this topic are:

Regulation 5 Workers' Responsibilities
Regulation 43 Information, Instruction and Training

[Australian Standards](#) are available from the Master Builders Association, ph. 8922 9666. Australian Standards can be viewed online by visiting the Northern Territory Library, Parliament House, ph. 8999 7177.

Or please contact NT Worksafe on 1800 019 115 or visit worksafe.nt.gov.au

NT WorkSafe kindly acknowledges WorkCover SA.