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- Holiday season brings it's own types of driving risks.
- Many times multiple factors can lead to driving hazards.
- If your sick, stay home.
- Wait at least 24 hours after the fever is gone to reduce likelihood of the spread of infection.



Holiday Driving

Driving while impaired, whether it is tired, distracted or otherwise is always dangerous. When we start to add combinations of each those chances for having a vehicle accident increases. In addition winter weather such as rain, sleet, ice or snow can increase the risk. Here are four of the most dangerous holiday driving hazards.

1. **Distracted Driving.** According to the National Safety Council 1.6 million crashes per year can be attributed to cell phone talking and texting while driving. During the holiday season this can also include checking out store hours or looking up locations using our smartphones.
2. **Impaired Driving.** There is a reason law enforcement is out during the holiday season. Alcohol consumption leads to an increase in the number of impaired drivers during the winter holidays. Each year 23,000 people die in a drinking and driving related accidents.
3. **Pressured Driving.** Increased pressures and stress during the winter holidays can easily translate over into our driving behavior like driving too fast for conditions, aggressive lane changing, and general disregard for the needs and safety of others. Many of these pressures come from trying to do more too much in less time.
4. **Fatigued Driving.** Travel time increases during the holidays for some of us. Visiting family and friends that may be out of town leads to long road trips. Sometimes just trying to drive home after eating grandma's awesome holiday feast can lead to fatigued and sleepy driving. Know your limits and prepare ahead of time.



Flu Facts

A survey by Kimberly-Clark Professional (KCP) found that 59 percent of people go to work when they're sick. Three out of 10 said it was because they were too important to the business operation to stay home. Spreading cold and flu germs is easy. All it takes is a cough, a sneeze, or an unwashed hand touching an elevator button or stair railing. KCP recommends that we wash, wipe, and sanitize on a regular basis. Also:

Speak up. Ask your employer to provide hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and other products to help break the chain of germ transmission.

Cover. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you sneeze and throw the tissue away. If no tissue is handy, cough or sneeze into the inner part of your sleeve at the elbow.

Stay home. If you get a flu-like illness, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends staying at home away from others for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone.



News & Notes

- There is no universal definition of a risk level; risk assessment's help determine acceptable risk.
- Residual risk is a portion of the risk that is left even after all theoretically possible safety measures would be applied.
- Safety culture is the attitudes, beliefs, perceptions and values that employees share in relation to safety.
- W. Deming's [Fourteen Points for Management](#)

What is Acceptable Risk?

Acceptable risk refers to the level of human and property loss that can be tolerated by an individual, household, group, organization, community, region, state, or nation. The concept of acceptable risk evolved partly from the understanding that absolute safety is generally an unachievable goal, and that even very low exposures to certain toxic substances may confer some level of risk.

With that in mind how do safety practitioners determine what is acceptable?

- Safety practitioners should accept that zero risk is not attainable for hazards that cannot be eliminated.
- Where hazards cannot be eliminated, the goal should be to reduce risks so that the residual risks are acceptable.
- Safety practitioners should debate and consider accepting the proposed definitions for terms defined within the scope of risk management.
- Risk assessments and the risk decision process should become more structured and documented in accordance with recent guidelines such as ANSI B11.TR3 2000, SEMI S10-1296 and ANSI/RIA R15.06-1999. This process will advance the understanding and acceptance of the concept of acceptable risk and of residual risks.
- Safety practitioners should recognize that a universal definition of an acceptable risk level cannot be attained because of the many variables in individual risk situations.

[On Acceptable Risk: What level of risk, if any, is acceptable in the workplace?](#)

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Total Quality Management & Safety

Total Quality Management (TQM) consists of organization-wide efforts to install and make permanent a climate in which an organization continually improves its ability to deliver high-quality products and services to customers. W. Edward Deming's 85/15 rule says that the problem in operations are within the system and are management's responsibility, while only 15% lie on the worker. Although Total Quality Management (TQM) and Contin-

uous Quality Improvement (CQI) ideas have been around for many years, their concepts and principles have not been general applied to Continuous Safety Improvement (CSI) as a management strategy in occupation safety and health. Focusing on the process helps align safety, quality and productivity. The principle idea is that the management of health and safety is fully integrated into the management of the core business. In order

to create this type of safety culture management would need to consider safety performance alongside aspects of other types of performance. At its core if health and safety is not fully integrated into the normal working patterns of the business the business still has some distance to travel on its journey into Total Quality Management.