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Safe Driving

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Supervising Safety Newsletter

Safe Driving

Recently, there have been several complaints involving erratic driving on and off the plant site. The issues reported have included speeding, failing to stop or yield, passing, traveling the wrong way through the parking lot, and parking outside of normal parking areas. Driver frustration is on the rise due to the increase in traffic with outage and renewal project work.

IPSC requires employees to maintain a current driver's license and obey all traffic signs and posted speed limits. Being a safe driver includes more than just obeying the rules and posted limits. It also means that as a driver we should be courteous and operate vehicles with regard for the safety of those around us. One item that continues to plague drivers throughout the United States is texting and cell phone use. This is a distraction that can simply be shut down or put on "do not disturb," until arriving at a safe location. Is this act worth putting ourselves at risk of an accident and possibly hurting someone else? A recent article on driver safety mentioned the three A's of safe driving that applies to all drivers. These three A's are attitude, awareness, and the actions you take while behind the wheel.

The 3-A's of Safe Driving

- **Attitude:** Stay positive while driving, even if the circumstances get frustrating. Acting out of anger while behind the wheel can endanger you and others on the road.
- **Awareness:** Stay alert to any potential threats while driving. This could include police lights, road signs, or someone driving dangerously in your vicinity.
- **Actions:** Maintain a speed close to the speed limit, keep a safe distance between you and the car in front of you, and make sure to give yourself ample time to

make turns or switch lanes.

Parking Areas

There are several parking areas designated for employee parking around the plant site. The main parking lot has well-marked spaces and directional arrows that indicate the direction of travel to help traffic flow in an orderly manner. There have been several reported near-miss situations of vehicles

traveling in the wrong direction and drivers cutting off others when trying to enter or leave the parking area. Take the time to slow down and follow the flow of the parking lot and be courteous with your fellow workers who are all trying to do the same thing. There are approved parking areas around the facility where employees

may park their personal vehicles. With the benefit of closer parking to many of the work areas, employees should park in designated areas, and away from, and not inside any of the buildings. Additional parking is also located east of the main gate for employees who do not wish to park onsite. When you choose to park in an unimproved area on-site, be mindful of the surroundings and understand that you are parking there at your own risk of potential damage.

Drive Safely

We all want to get to work and go home at the end of the day. We just need to do it safely. Slow down and be mindful of others on the road. There really is no good reason for speeding, passing, or erratic driving when the result could be an accident with dire consequences. Remember, everyone on the road is trying to get to their destination. Keeping a positive attitude and being courteous will help us all do it safely.

