

## **Tool Box Talk – Vehicle Incursions**

### **Introduction**

Industry has identified that vehicle incursions in to work areas is one of the highest risks to road workers safety. 250 incursions are continually reported between operations and major project directorates on the strategic road network, the true figure could be much higher as there is a perception that incursions are normal and accepted as part of the job. Unfortunately we know only too well the devastating consequences of vehicles entering works and colliding with people and / or our works vehicles causing fatality or significant damage.

### **Incursion types**

Intentional Incursions can be separated into three groups:

- Intentional Incursion where the road user seeks to gain a benefit.
- Intentional Incursion where the road user is seeking information.
- Intentional Incursion where the road user is seeking refuge.

Unintentional Incursions can be separated into three groups:

- Unintentional incursion where a road user follows a works vehicle into the works in error, also known as a follow in.
- Unintentional incursion where a road user enters the works area as a result of confusion.
- Unintentional Incursion where a road user enters the works area or traffic management as a result of a collision or to avoid a collision.

### **Reducing the risk**

Highways England have produced Raising the Bar 27 managing temporary traffic management incursions giving guidance on methods that should be considered to reduce the risk of a vehicle incursion happening on your site. Each element can be utilised alone or in conjunction with others. These include;

- Effective and appropriate traffic management design
- Suitable and sufficient Planning and Point of Works Risk Assessment
- Airlocks
- Entry / Exit slip closure techniques
- Use of barrier
- Intelligent alert systems
- Automatic number plate recognition systems

### **How do I report incursions?**

Follow your companies reporting procedure and ensure you include detail of:

- Date and time – please record the exact time e.g. 1.35 a.m. It's important we can differentiate between day and night time incursions.
- Location – as accurate a description as possible.
- Your name and company details.
- Tick the access/egress box on the card (we will pick out the incursion related issues on this field).

- Brief description of the incursion in as much detail as possible – if you have information regarding the vehicle type, model, registration number etc. please record it here. If the driver stops to speak to someone or there is an altercation please include details. Were there passengers in the car or was it a driver on their own? If it's a breakdown was it due to running out of fuel or a mechanical failure? Also please record what the traffic conditions were like at the time. The more information provided in the description the better.
- And finally record any actions taken as a result of the incursion.

All Incursions should be entered into Highway Englands AIRSWEB Database, the data feeds the national incursion working group aiming to research and develop new methods of preventing incursions.

It would be unacceptable to drive through a supermarket or hospital why should roadworks be any different.

**Are there any questions?**