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### **Smoking Policy Opicorp (PTY) Limited T/A Auto Carriers**

Smoking inside a truck, the workplace for a driver, is often prohibited by company regulations to ensure safety and cleanliness, particularly in share or company-owned vehicles. Driver's need to abide by the company training, rules and regulations to avoid disciplinary action.

**Safety Risk:** Given the nature of transporting goods, many companies implement total bans to prevent fire hazards.

**Vaping:** Whilst vaping may not be hazardous as a cigarette, the common distraction of smoking is what forbids the act in a cab.

**Employer Discretion:** Employers may, but are not required to, provide smoke breaks. However, rest breaks are currently implemented, and this time maybe used by the driver to smoke.

### ***Safety and Operational Hazards***

Smoking while driving presents immediate safety risks that can lead to accidents.

**Driver Distraction:** The act of lighting a cigarette, handling ash, or managing a lit cigarette takes a driver's hands off the wheel and eyes off the road, significantly increasing the risk of a crash.

**Physiological Effects on Driving:** Nicotine temporarily increases stress, and the smoke irritates the lungs, which can lead to coughing fits that distract attention from the road. Over time, smoking-related damage to blood vessels can slow the eyes' recovery from being temporarily blinded by oncoming headlights at night.

**Fire Hazard:** Smoking near flammable materials, including the truck's own fuel or hazardous cargo (hazmat), creates a risk of fire or explosion.