

# Safety First...it's the right thing to do!



April, 2013

## National Work Zone Awareness Week

According to the National Highway Safety Administration, in 2011, 3,331 people were killed and an additional 387,000 injured in accidents involving distracted drivers.

With reduced speeds in work zones drivers can easily be distracted. Following distances are reduced, contractors are focused on the task at hand and potential for injuries increases. During National Work Zone Awareness Week Travelers is reminding drivers to keep their attention on the road.

Any activity while driving – including texting, cell phone use, reading, eating etc. – that takes a driver's attention away from the road is considered distracted driving. Of those, **texting** is one of the most dangerous distractions.

Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) found that the average text requires drivers to take their eyes off the road for 4.6 seconds. At highway speeds, that is enough time to drive the length of a football field blindfolded. The study also showed that a driver is 23.3 times more likely to cause an accident while texting.

*Ref-Chem encourages employees to use their best judgment when it comes to the safety of themselves and others while driving a vehicle. Cell phones, tablets, and all electrical devices should be used **only** when the vehicle is not moving. Eating, grooming or any other distractions can wait.*

**Ref-Chem promotes safety first not only during work hours but after.**

Source: The Travelers Indemnity Company

## Informative:

