

## Cell Phones While Driving

### Issue:

As much as we all enjoy having the convenience of our cell phones, the fact is that using a mobile device while operating a vehicle is extremely dangerous. Cell phone usage while driving slows reaction time and serves as a major distraction. According to the latest statistics, talking or texting on a cell phone while driving increases your risk of accident by 400%.

### Who/What/When/Actions:

#### **POLICY: Engine On, Cell Phone Off**

- Means if the vehicle engine is ON, drivers must remain OFF their cell phone, PDA, Blackberry or other communication device unless the vehicle is safely parked;
- ***Cell phone use by ANY driver is prohibited in any moving vehicle while on property whether company or personal vehicle, specifically parking areas and while traveling or conducting business;***
- When parked, engines may remain ON to provide driver comfort;
- Cell phones may remain powered up while the vehicle is in motion to alert the driver to an incoming call. The driver can then decide to make a safe decision to pull over, safely park, and return the call if necessary;
- prohibits the use of cell phones to include "hands off" technology while performing any critical/high potential task such as operating machinery, cranes, forklifts, pressure testing, etc. If using "Bluetooth" or other "hands free" technology, employees must remove the earpiece while performing any of these tasks.
- If you call someone on their cell phone and it becomes apparent they are driving, you should always ask them to hang up and return the call when they reach a safe location;

Decreased distractions, such as cell phone usage, will reduce the risk of a vehicle accident.

cell phone policy WILL be strictly enforced. Your adherence to this policy is expected and appreciated.

