

Protecting your fleet and your employees

Fleet management plays a vital role in today's business world and those responsible for managing a company's fleet know there's much more involved than buying and leasing vehicles. From managing and maintaining a fleet, to driver safety, financing and even environmental issues, a fleet manager's role is dynamic and often changing.

The decisions fleet managers make can also have implications for the safety of employees and in particular, those who spend a significant amount of their working day on the road. Driver safety should be an integral part of a company's overall OH&S strategy to ensure the health and safety of all employees. Vero has developed a Fleet Risk Management Framework with this in mind.

Road crashes are the most common types of work related deaths in Australia, and the largest cause of injury and absenteeism at work.¹ Two out of three cars on the road make a work-related trip and this greatly increases a company's exposure to on-road risks.

Employers, fleet managers, driver training providers, insurers and risk consultants need to work together to educate employees on various issues including driver safety and have an appropriate level of risk management in place.

Vero Insurance Limited (Vero) works closely with fleet managers to raise awareness and solutions for the types of risks they may face when managing a fleet. In April, Vero Motor Fleet held their second annual 'Think on your

¹ Australian government Department of Finance and Administration website.

Fleet' seminar to provide forward-thinking and practical advice to fleet managers on a range of issues.

The aim of the seminar was to educate fleet managers in two key areas. The first addressed alternative fuel sources, their environmental implications and what will be financially and commercially viable for fleet managers in the future, while the second speaker looked at how to build a risk management culture.

Greg Steel, General Manager of Vero Motor Fleet said it is important to challenge today's fleet managers and assist them with risk mitigation.

"Fleet management is much more than 'vehicle' management. We work closely with our clients and help them to implement risk management strategies in their workplace," said Mr Steel.

"A commitment to continual risk improvement and driver safety can assist businesses to reduce the frequency and severity of any losses and ensures that any business disruptions such as claims are kept to a minimum," he said.

Editor's note

Vero Insurance Limited ("Vero") is a subsidiary of the Suncorp-Metway Limited ("Suncorp"). Vero, formerly Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Australia Limited, has for many years been offering highly specialised solutions to its large range of customers.

Vero is one of Australia's largest intermediated general insurance companies and has 19 branches across Australia, providing a suite of quality specialised risk management products and services through brokers, corporate partners and risk managers.

For further information please contact:

Sue Repanellis
Communications Manager
Vero
Tele: 02 9978 2641
Mobile: 0407 210 710

Danielle Fanning
Media Executive
Vero
Tele: 02 9978 2048