

Journey Planning and Management forms part of a robust risk management strategy, and is designed to identify potential hazards, risk factors, and apply mitigation strategies to improve driver safety during a journey (including delivery stops, rest breaks, changing weather and traffic conditions). It seeks to address risks before they are encountered, relieve time pressure and to minimize exposure to hazards while promoting a safe driving culture, but can also assist in reducing emergency response times if an event were to occur.

Journey Planning and Management plays a crucial part in influencing work related road risk and mitigation strategies and should be developed as part of an organisations' road safety program. All organisations' with drivers who are expected to complete long journeys, or journeys through unfamiliar environments, should have a journey management system in place.

When planning a journey, answers to the following questions should be considered as part of the risk assessment process:

- How often do you use a Journey Management Plan?
- Do you have a post incident plan?
- How often is the Journey Management Plan reassessed when drivers are on the road?

Some things to consider when implementing a Journey Management Plan

- Review scheduling, rostering and load route planning arrangements and proactively address driver stress in the context of a health and safety plan.

Establish defined routes and schedules which allow drivers enough time to obey speed limits and avoid

driving during peak hours. These should be flexible and adaptable to changes such as weather conditions. Established and defined routes will also assist in reducing emergency response times if an event were to occur, as the drivers most likely location will be known.

- Weather conditions and seasonality including: inclement weather; heavy traffic conditions and travelling in reduced visibility such as at dawn or dusk (when there is a higher potential for accidents involving animals), should be considered when choosing the route.
- Ensure to allow extra time for unexpected delays and avoid factors that may negatively impact road safety, such as setting unrealistic commitments and time restraints to complete deliveries.
- Drivers should also be instructed that if they are delayed, they should stop when it is safe to do so to phone ahead, and rearrange or cancel appointments if needed, rather than driving faster, and if they become fatigued they should stop and rest rather than continuing on.
- Journeys should also be shared or consolidated as far as possible and public transport should be used wherever practical and appropriate (i.e. attending business meetings).

Consider whether a journey management app would be beneficial for your organization, or if journey management safety features can be incorporated into existing log book or scheduling systems.

The best way to reduce road risk is identify the correct controls and actions that should be taken to mitigate risks and ensure that safe travel is optimised. This is not only beneficial to safety, but will also reduce costs while promoting a safe driving culture.

- Introducing safety solutions that are tailored for your requirements and address your specific challenges are more effective and meaningful than one-size-fits-all approaches.
- Investing in and utilising technology-based solutions such as IVMR or more recently Phone Applications allows flexibility in configuring and upgrading products so that critical risks are controlled in a way that works for your.
- Incorporating input from the workers safety measures are designed to protect drives fit-for-purpose solutions that are more likely to be accepted and utilised by those workers situation as well as what safety measures are implemented can be critical in driving acceptance, especially where measures reflect a new approach.



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