



# Driver Supervision

## » Ensuring Fleet Safety Through Better Driving Practices

*Safety professionals agree that the supervisor is key to successful safety programs and prevention of accidents. Through daily indirect contact, supervisors respond to driver's needs, problems and satisfactions, but also link to management. They are most effective in developing driver training programs, safety attitudes, and safe working methods.*

### *Expectations, Authority, Responsibility*

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It's important to explicitly state your expectations of supervisors in terms of accident and injury prevention. Including safety responsibilities in their job description and performance review is essential.

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## *Safety Training for the Supervisor*

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Now that safety responsibilities have been assigned to the supervisor, train them in vehicle accident prevention. A local trade or industry association will frequently address vehicle safety in meetings, newsletters or through seminars. These are excellent sources of training materials. The National Safety Council publishes many brochures and books on the role of the supervisor in preventing accidents and improving safety performance. The National Committee for Motor Fleet Supervisor Training holds seminars several times each year. The Hanover's Loss Control Department has many references to strengthen the safety expertise of the fleet supervisor.

## *Safety Activities of the Supervisor*

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The safety activities of the supervisor will vary depending on the size, complexity and resources of the organization. For accountability, incorporate common supervisor safety activities into job descriptions and include them in performance reviews:

- Train new and experienced drivers
- Hold driver safety meetings
- Qualify drivers per your driver selection program
- Evaluate preventative maintenance programs
- Complete accident investigations and develop corrective actions
- Determine the preventability of vehicle accidents
- Include safety considerations in routing and scheduling
- Motivate drivers to operate vehicles safely
- Develop safe working procedures
- Enforce safety rules and regulations
- Perform MVR reviews and determine driver disqualification
- Discipline drivers who disregard company rules and regulations
- Review driver logs
- Give recognition to safe and efficient drivers
- Identify accident repeaters and problem drivers
- Establish road observation programs
- Foster communications between drivers and management
- Assist in legal and regulatory compliance

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### *Use This Program*

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This program offers management guidance for development or enhancement of your fleet safety program. Incorporate these activities into your management system. Use your initiative, resolve, and available resources and you will be successful. Our Loss Control Department welcomes the opportunity to work with you in the establishment of your fleet safety program.

### *Reduce Your Risk for a Loss*

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Access our policyholder education safety series online at [www.hanover.com](http://www.hanover.com).



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