

▶ *Hanover Risk Solutions*

Smoothness—The Mark of the Professional Driver

If a full glass of water were placed on the floor of your vehicle, how long could you drive in traffic without spilling it? We're sure you'll be quick to agree that it would take a pretty "smooth" driving performance not only to keep from spilling any of the water but to keep from toppling the glass.

The kind of driving it takes to keep from spilling a glass of water is the kind of driving that marks the true professional driver. It's not difficult to pick him out from the other drivers on the road. Starts, stops, lane changes and turns are all handled in a smooth manner—in a way that cuts accident producing conflicts to a minimum.

Avoid common driving errors

Driving errors can be avoided—But more than skill is needed.

It takes a lot more than just driving skill to be a smooth driver. To obtain the mark of the true professional, you must first have the correct mental attitude about driving. Don't become irritated or impatient with other drivers. Maintain an even frame of mind every second you are behind the wheel.

The smooth driver must learn to drive ahead. Anticipate the need for a slowdown or a stop. Plan turns and a change of lanes in advance. The driver who is rear-ended after a sudden stop will likely share in the responsibility for the accident—if the sudden stop could have been avoided by "driving ahead."

The mark of a true professional

Because of the nature of your work, you have been categorized as a "professional" driver. As a "professional," a smooth driving performance has become a necessary attribute—it no longer can be considered only desirable. Your responsibility to yourself and your family, the other drivers around you and to your company—demands it!

BE IDENTIFIED AS A TRUE PROFESSIONAL EVERY TIME YOU DRIVE.

NEVER BE GUILTY OF SUDDEN, UNEXPECTED MANEUVERS

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