



SPS HAZARD ALERT

SAFE & APPROVED USE OF MOBILE PHONES

MARCH 2021



Hazard: *Safe & Approved Use of Mobile phones.*

This relates to the use of mobile phones when you are at work and or if travelling to and from work.

Risk: Research has shown an increased risk of traffic accidents, about 3–4 times greater chance of an accident, when mobile phones (either handheld or with a “hands-free” kit) are used while driving due to distraction.

There is also an increased risk of accidents outside of a motor vehicle if making the call in an unsafe manner such as:

- Using a mobile phone while walking.
- Using a mobile phone in an unsafe or unapproved area.



Control Measure:

Any person in control of a vehicle or mobile equipment cannot use mobile phones unless an approved and appropriate hands free kit has been fitted. Texting cannot occur unless the vehicle has safely been parked and the motor turned off.

State and federal governments have also put in place measures to eliminate people breaking the law concerning the use of mobile phones. This not only includes police officers visually finding culprits breaking the law while driving, but also includes mobile detection cameras at traffic lights and intersections.

The safest control measure to take while driving is to place your mobile phone in your glovebox until you pull over.

Other control measures to remember while at work:

- The use of personal mobile phones at work is at the discretion of your Manager and in some areas, use is restricted.
- Your manager **must** approve the use and taking of photographs and digital images onsite.
- If you need to take a call or text at work then make sure you are in a safe or approved area to do so.

