

## Tom Ritter Introduction and Safety Tip,..”Distracted Driving”

I was recently brought on board to help promote the Hub’s safety product category, support the outside sales team for all of Hub’s 15 branches and to promote safety awareness and training to Hub’s customers.

As a self-proclaimed construction safety geek, I am in constant awe of the challenges and scope of responsibility of today’s construction safety professional. Though OSHA safety product technology and company culture have evolved for the better, the nature and complexity of the work and rigorous physical demands of commercial construction have not. And for that reason, my respect and admiration extends to all of you involved in safety – from the laborer to the superintendent to the company officers and everyone in between.

As a contributor to the Hub Construction Specialties monthly newsletter, I will author a monthly ‘Safety Tip’ column specifically for the commercial construction contractor. My goal is to provide information that you will find beneficial, cost effective and help you manage your projects optimally.

It’s truly a pleasure and honor to be on the Hub Team; the environment at Hub and its dedication to customer care is second to none and the commitment to excellence is apparent every day.

This month’s safety tip originated in a conference call. The brief topic was “Texting and Driving”. In short, don’t do it. We all learned this in driver’s education, but it’s a great reminder:

Reaction Distance + Braking Distance= Stopping Distance

Adding distractions while driving only increases the reaction distance to the equation and increasing your chances of having an accident.

However, this is an aspect you may not have known. There are some insurers that view a texting and driving citation with the same severity as a DUI! An employee receiving a texting & driving violation in a company truck could mean an increase in your company's insurance premium and the employee being prohibited from driving company vehicles in the future.

Texting and Driving is just not worth it.

**-Stay Safe Out There!**

*Tom Ritter*