



## Safety Focus of the Month

### Listen

Listen to your gut and pay attention to your surroundings.

Each month we will highlight each letter of: **SIMPLE**. The safety team will be providing table tents to place around your offices.

## Communication is Key!

Week 5 of *Safe Days of Summer* focuses on the importance of enhancing communication while on the job. Ensure clear, concise, and open communication to maintain a safe work environment! Utilize the tips below so you and your team can stay informed and connected.

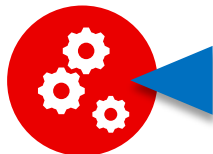
### Play of the Day

Use this time to plan the day ahead. Incorporate tools such as Google Earth and JSAs to identify hazards in advance.



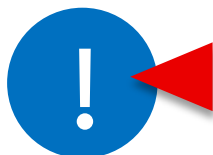
### Tailgate Meeting

Discuss specific and operational topics pertaining to the task to ensure each worker's assignment is understood. Review common hazards that may occur on the job.



### Stop. Speak. Act!

Exercise your right to speak up when the plan goes off course. Collaborate to develop a new plan and make sure that all employees involved are aware.



#### Additional ways to cultivate effective communication on the job:

- Call a safety timeout when necessary.
- Never hesitate to ask questions. If you don't understand the plan or see a potential hazard, it is crucial you alert your team.
- Be intentional. Deliberate and conscientious actions reduce the risk of injuries and incidents.

## Listen

Use these TxDOT resources and tips to implement "Listen" on the job.

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### Distracted Driving

#### Foundation 14: #8

When behind the wheel, your #1 priority is safe driving! It is imperative to not engage in any activity that takes your focus away from the road.

Follow these rules to avoid distracted driving:

- No texting
- No GPS adjustments while driving
- Hands-free mode only
- Have two-way radio communication

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### Backing

Foundation 14: #12 – Employees should avoid backing unless necessary. Backing improperly can result in vehicle damage, property damage, or worse – employee injury.

When backing, always use a spotter if available and follow GOAL: Get Out And Look! This will help identify hazards in the parking area.

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### Spotting

#### Foundation 14: #13

- When backing, always use a spotter if available.
- A spotter should never stand directly behind a vehicle
- A spotter should never walk backwards while guiding a vehicle.
- If a driver loses sight of the spotter, they should stop their vehicle.

Proper spotter signals can be found in [Section 25](#) of the Handbook of Safe Practices.

## Hydration Challenge

Don't stop now, the KSS Hydration Challenge is still ongoing! Drawing for the winning office will be held on July 31<sup>st</sup> and winners will receive a free breakfast cooked by Tucker, Mike, and Lori. Who would want to pass up on that?

Let's finish strong and stay in the game by staying hydrated on the job!

**Drink Up and Don't Miss Out!**  
**Best of Luck!!**

