

**Excuses**

**Excuses**

**Excuses**

# “We’ll see what happens”

From 6th April 2008 the **Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act** comes into force, making it possible to prosecute a company if a death is caused by a gross breach of its duty of care. This includes at-work road deaths.

If you think the chances are slim that your company would ever be prosecuted over a work-related road death, you might come to the conclusion that it would be worth taking a calculated risk by doing nothing.

Apart from the fact that this new law,



together with those relating to health and safety at work, **must** be observed, can you afford to gamble with the health and livelihoods of your company’s employees, its public reputation, and even your personal freedom and peace of mind?

## **But what about the cost?**

Managing your company’s work-related road risk properly brings financial and health benefits that far outweigh the costs, such as more reliable vehicles, safer drivers, lower fuel consumption and cheaper insurance.

# “We’re insured for it”

If you believe that your company is already insured for its work-related road safety, perhaps through public liability insurance, you would be wrong.

What insurance will do is pay money for compensation and legal costs.

What it will not do is make your business and people safe, save you money, replace key people and assets, run your business for you



during an investigation, pay any fines, prevent criminal culpability, replace your customers, clients and sales, repair public image and business reputation, or restore your share price.

**Only the rigorous application of a practical system to manage work-related road safety can protect your company from such consequences.**

# “We’re already doing it”

An employer can appoint someone outside the business to assess risk, which is why many companies have been choosing to meet their duty of care obligations by engaging outside agencies to take care of it all.

**But the legal responsibility for assessing and managing risk will always remain with the employer.**

## **What do these agencies provide?**

Generally the procedures recommended by such agencies will cover driving licence and insurance level checks, an online driver profiling assessment and perhaps recommendations for further driver training.



All these processes are useful in assessing some of the risk drivers pose at any one moment in time.

**But they are limited and do not assess driver risk continuously.**

## **How is risk continuously assessed?**

You will need to regularly monitor vehicle maintenance, accident and damage records, traffic offences and other driver behaviour.

Then you will need to have a system in place that can instantly identify those at risk so that you can take effective measures to reduce it.

**Only RiskMaster can provide you with this degree of control over risk in compliance with the new law.**

For further information phone **0844 800 5612**, email [riskmaster@mypermittodrive.com](mailto:riskmaster@mypermittodrive.com) or visit [www.fsguk.com](http://www.fsguk.com)



## **Fleet Support Group**

Gerald Jiggins House • Methuen Park • Chippenham • Wiltshire • SN14 0GX

Telephone: 0844 800 5612 • Fax: 0844 800 5610

Email: [riskmaster@mypermittodrive.com](mailto:riskmaster@mypermittodrive.com) • Internet: [www.fsguk.com](http://www.fsguk.com)

Winner of the Brake Award  
for Outstanding Commitment  
to Fleet Safety 2007