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Michael Kemp reporting affairs as he finds them



## ORR protection reduces car CO<sub>2</sub> fumes

# PROVED: RiskMaster cuts global warming

DISCIPLINED driving and car care reduce global warming carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) exhaust emissions by up to 7 per cent (third of a ton p/car a year) - the FSG way.

That is the initial finding in new analysis of the business vehicle management company's RiskMaster occupational road risk (ORR) protection programme.

In addition to reducing fleet car running costs by an average £300-year each, cleaner exhaust is a challenging spin-off with valuable potential.

For if, as seems possible, a tax on business generated CO<sub>2</sub> is to be off-set by 'carbon credits' then vehicle carbon dioxide savings could acquire negotiable value.

RiskMaster users would be well placed. So FSG procedures are being developed to assist client companies in compiling CO<sub>2</sub> tax credits.

Drive & Survive, the Bloxham, Oxon, based fleet vehicle driver training specialist, has recorded mpg/CO<sub>2</sub> savings by RiskMaster drivers.

Business car and van drivers identified as requiring professional tuition to perhaps safeguard their licenses and/or enable them to acquire RiskMaster accreditation, are passing through Drive & Survive courses with impressive results.

"Typically car drivers' mpg economy is

7 per cent better and van drivers' 12 per cent better when they leave us than when they arrive," says Drive & Survive Fleet Manager Steve Johnson. That means similar cuts in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Mr Johnson adds: "Significantly RiskMaster ensures that vehicle and driver are right for purpose. Safety and efficiency of both produce right conditions for high mpg" (that lowers CO<sub>2</sub> emissions).

Former Cranfield University environmentalist Dr Steve Cousins, head of Axon Automotive, a specialist in fuel efficient vehicle design at Wellingborough, Northants, says:-

"The average business fleet car covers 15,000-miles a year emitting nearly 5-tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. So, a 7 per cent fuel efficiency saving is significant because it is a CO<sub>2</sub> saving of almost a third of a ton."

Dr Cousins adds that working car and van drivers traditionally run-up 15 per cent higher fuel consumption than vehicle makers' claim is possible. So there is "a lot of scope" for improvement that RiskMaster happens to be achieving.

FSG Technical Director Julian Bailey-Watts says: "FSG has an electronic solution that makes it very easy for client companies to accurately record their vehicles' mpg. It could now be assuming special significance."

## They've got to wise-up

ONE in eight driving licence holders is aged under 25. And at least 1-in-4 people who die on UK roads is under 25.

So, two young people are dying for every new young licence holder.

Crazy? Yes, indeed, but 'we can't put old heads on young shoulders'. Yet we can ask them to consider those frightening statistics to then aim at putting perfection into their driving.

FSG is backing road safety campaigner Brake in asking you and your company to join the thrust by:-

ENCOURAGING young employees always to think safety at the wheel.

ADOPTING pride in good driving, that implies they know what is right - yet do they? Sadly many of them have never been taught features of professional driving.

Common failings are: driving too close, no lane discipline, poor positioning, late braking, failure to read the road ahead, no understanding of other drivers' road space requirements, and no courtesy.

Once a young driver has the do-it-right bug driving to perfection is a challenge. We all make mistakes at the wheel but recognising them is half the secret to not doing 'it' again.

## Widest ORR protection is made simpler

REDESIGNED and rebuilt for 2007 RiskMaster Mk 11, operating now, is simple to use.

With three years of evolved development behind it, plus a string of users' suggestions and criticisms to be applied, redesign was inevitable.

Innovations include easier driver applications, clearer instructions, instantly identifiable stationery, and streamlined contact with linked sites.

As before but better the online programme ensures employee driver and vehicle perform to employer

requirements within H&S and allied legislation, so providing wide ranging protection against prosecution.

Employee drivers apply for an annual employer Permit to Drive. The programme then records their compliance and performance.