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Michael Kemp reporting affairs as he finds them



100mpg hybrid is 100% clean

A NEW breed of 100mpg hybrid luxury sports Q-Drive petrol-electric car engine will next year give 125mph fume-free performance, says US Quantum Fuel Systems Technologies Worldwide in California.

INSURER Allianz is leading the way in imposing a premium increase on drivers (fleets beware) convicted of a hand-held phone offence, which must be declared at or before insurance renewal.

FSG has live visual contact with 100 garage workshops to close-up examine vehicle wear, crash damage, and driver neglect to keep its client companies suitably informed.

UNFAIR trading laws across the EU will be harmonised on May 26 prohibiting misleading or deceptive marketing messages and aggressive or harassing sales techniques.

SMOOTH light throttle driving is a top fuel saver; 56mph uses 25pc less fuel than 70mph. Also, adjust speed to avoid braking to glide to halts. Keep windows closed, advises IAM.

RICARDO research in Sussex has invented a 2.1-litre V6 petrol engine functioning in two and four-stroke modes producing 3.5-litre power from 27pc less fuel cutting CO2 from 260 to 190g/km.

SHARP bend driving requires 'limit point analysis'. Focus on the furthest point at which you can see both sides of the road meeting and be sure you can stop before reaching it, says IAM.

Has your company got planned crisis control?

BA's Heathrow Terminal-5 disaster points a moral to all executives to respect business rule No 1: *If it can happen it will, so be prepared*

IF THE worst that could happen struck your company, has it a crisis control plan in place for managing and resolving the emergency efficiently and quickly?

If not, why not?

In answering that question consider FSG. It is well placed to provide your solution to any road transport related issue, plus many more, because it exists by doing just that for companies across the breadth of UK plc.

Discussion with FSG could assist your business in creating or improving a crisis control plan. Or it could help in resolving a serious problem.

Technical Director Julian Bailey-Watts says: "If your business is in a crisis, or likely to face one, it makes good sense to approach FSG because, more than likely, it has the expertise to be of assistance."

"As market leader in road risk management, FSG is acutely aware that risk man-

agement has assumed major importance following international discovery that those parts of the banking / finance sector with comprehensive risk management avoided worst sub-prime losses."

H&S legal specialist Michael Appleby advises: "In coping with multiple business and employment difficulties it is all too easy for a company's management to overlook elements of risk."

"The intangible is ignored because it has never happened. Yet in reality an unexpected death crisis is occurring in UK businesses up to three times a day on average."

"People are dying in the workplace, mainly on the road. That immediately involves police, insurers and lawyers at enormous cost in executive time and hard cash."

"That can plunge a company into crisis taking priority over everything else. So business efficiency can suffer - unless adequate crisis/incident management is in action."

Mr Appleby is a partner at Housemans, an eminent London legal practice specialising in employer and public liability, defending HSE and road accident prosecutions. He warns:-

"Seemingly BA had no Plan-B ready to quell turmoil if its new Terminal-5 went pear shaped, which it did with disastrous spin-offs in all directions draining away buckets of money. That fiasco has clearly damaged its reputation."

BA Chief Executive, Dubliner Willie Walsh, must wish he had observed business rule No 1, which is Murphy's Law, and respected, for safe measure, O'Driscoll's Law that Murphy was an optimist.

RISK ALERT: Employers who fail to act on knowledge of employee safety and legal breaches in work driving, including speeding, are exposed to H&S prosecution, warns Zurich Insurance.

IF YOUR business is exposed to risk call FSG - now.

Check is on for killer tyres

ONE in six tyres replaced by FSG on business cars and vans is illegal, states Chairman Geoffrey Bray.

Last year it renewed 40,000 tyres of which 6259 were illegal (1-in-6) on 25,000 vehicles. That danger level still exists.

Industry experts estimate that up to 800,000 working vehicles are running on at least one unsafe tyre and Kwik-Fit says 1-in-4 vehicles it inspects needs instant tyre attention. FSG data supports that.

More employers than ever are now

ordering compulsory tyre checks because of corporate killing legislation.

Tyre pressures are seriously neglected by millions of drivers regardless of under inflation increasing wear, reducing safety, and cutting mpg. Cold check weekly.

Just 5psi under pressure increases fuel use up to 3 per cent. A roof rack adds 20pc at 70mph, AC uses up to 10pc more, 80mph is 10-15pc thirstier than 70mph, and aggressive driving takes up to 15pc more fuel.

See: <http://www.tyresafe.org/tyre-safety/>