2025 TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARDS

Join Our Driving Concern in lauding the best practices of this year's honorees!

DISTINGUISHED EXCELLENCE IN TRAFFIC SAFETY

Arlington Independent School District

In 2024, Arlington ISD safety leaders developed standard operating procedures to handle incidents involving bloodborne pathogens, trained 450 employees in ergonomics and more than 150 supervisors in vehicle collision prevention strategies. Bus drivers and other employees are now better equipped to handle trauma, including bleeding and seizures, and are riding with enhanced comfort and reduced risk of strain and fatigue.

In addition, Arlington ISD:

- Decreased the total number of district crash incidents from 105 in 2023 to 56 in 2024.
- Identified traffic safety challenges (including distracted driving, improper backing, improper lane changing, improper yielding and improper turning) and implemented a "how's my driving?" safety program.
- Demonstrated its commitment to safety through several key initiatives (including safety audits and inspections, health and well-being initiatives and emergency preparedness training).

Drawing its lead from Superintendent Matt Smith and Director of Risk Management Curt Fernandez, Arlington ISD continued to build on a program designed to address the safety of students, employees, visitors and others conducting business with district personnel. Safety is instilled in a variety of ways, including the collection of information about workplace hazards and driving risks.

Through an internal awards program, individual employees and entire departments were recognized for demonstrating outstanding commitment to safety. By incentivizing safety in this fashion, Arlington ISD is able to foster a culture that has become the lifeblood of its operation.

Our Driving Concern provides free training, education and resources on distracted driving, aggressive driving/speeding, passenger restraint, impaired driving and other transportation and driver safety topics. We work with risk managers, safety leaders and HR professionals to help them build their driver and traffic safety programs.

The annual **Our Driving Concern Traffic Safety Awards** are presented to Texas organizations that encourage positive driver behaviors among employees on and off the job. The goal is to decrease injuries and fatalities that are a result of crashes on state roads.

HONORING TEXAS EMPLOYERS

The workplace is a natural setting for distributing traffic safety messages and discussing driver behaviors —and it makes dollars and sense to do just that.

Raintree Transport

San Antonio-based Raintree Transport safety leaders focused on education, training, policy improvements and mental health awareness to ensure the well-being of its drivers and their families in 2024. Several new initiatives were launched to expand on driver safety knowledge and journey management preparation, including two safety campaigns:

- **Stop Work Authority:** Designed to reinforce safety protocols and empower employees through additional meetings, additional posted signage, distribution of hard hat stickers and decals for truck windows and trailer set-ups. The key takeaway: "See something unsafe? Stop it before it starts."
- **Mental Health Awareness:** Specifically aimed at suicide prevention and addressing the long hours construction workers put in, often operating machinery or driving vehicles. Flyers were distributed and awareness stickers were placed in bathroom stalls and in portable toilets on job sites. These materials highlighted the significance of mental health challenges and provided employees crucial resources, including information on how to access the 988 Lifeline website.

In addition, Raintree added a vehicle telematics system across its fleet and used the technology to track real-time data, monitor driver behavior and observe oncoming traffic. Insights were used to promote accountability and safe driving practices. To ensure employees are able to freely approach one another about safety concerns, Raintree adopted this collective safety mindset—"We are family and looking out for each other is imperative to our success"

Throughout the year, employees who achieved safety milestones were awarded cash prizes and safety certificates by Vice President of Assets, Mario Ochoa, and Fleet Manager, Jose Rodriguez. President Tim Ramon's support of safety is being extended even further in 2025 as Raintree commits to offering free monthly driver training for those working in the transportation community in and around San Antonio.

Because of its commitment to safety and employee buy-in, Raintree crash incidents decreased by about 36%. As a result, Raintree was able to reduce insurance premiums by 12%.

EXCELLENCE IN TRAFFIC SAFETY

City of Mont Belvieu

In 2024, the City of Mont Belvieu became one of the first cities in Texas to achieve all five badges in the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool R.O.A.D Ready safety program. Mont Belvieu was awarded its final badge after staging its first Safety Rodeo. The event focused on driver safety and allowed city safety leaders to engage directly with drivers and emphasize safe driving techniques, vehicle maintenance and respond-ready training for emergency situations. The Safety Rodeo was such a huge success that Mont Belvieu followed up with a second event in January 2025 and expanded participation and training activities, all in keeping with a philosophy of prioritizing safety to reduce risk, improve efficiency and ensure employees feel valued and protected.

Each department in the City has a safety champion involved in quarterly safety committee meetings. The City's safety newsletter focuses on a single safety topic every month and provides employees safety tips to keep safety at the forefront. Safety tips also are shared on computer screens in common areas throughout City workplaces. Safety leaders measure the success of Mont Belvieu's safety program by tracking data, conducting regular audits and monitoring employee training metrics. Monthly reports are analyzed to identify trends and work to continuously improve the safety culture city-wide.

City of San Antonio

In the City of San Antonio, a safety team of 17 works tirelessly to support more than 13,500 city employees in 42 departments and address their safety concerns. Their vision is to inspire, educate and maintain a safety-conscious workforce, reduce risk, manage losses and protect assets so all employees can return home safely every day. In 2024, two separate departments initiated new safe driving programs to help reduce the number of crashes involving City vehicles:

- **Cone Program:** The Parks and Rec Department created and implemented a Cone Program designed to reduce the number of backing incidents. Employees were trained on the process of setting out cones and picking them up.
- **Get Out and Look:** The Development Services Department created a video to show their drivers how to "Get Out and Look" – an extension of the City's G-O-A-L policy. The video walks employees through the steps of conducting a complete walkaround of a vehicle to identify potential hazards before getting behind the wheel.

AWARD HONORS

The Our Driving Concern program's mission is to assist employers in implementing well-developed policies and comprehensive workplace programs that can help reduce traffic crashes.

These are two examples of increased commitment from department leaders and employees on safety issues ranging from driver safety awareness to ergonomics, proper lifting and situational awareness.

Safety leaders track Key Performance Indicators on preventable crash incidents and use data to guide road safety programs and ongoing training initiatives. In addition, random drug and alcohol screens are conducted every month for primary drivers and CDL drivers. In FY24, crash incidents exceeded expectations. But, at the same time, worker comp claims were down 50% year-over-year, a strong indication that crash injuries and incidents were much less severe. Employees are recognized for embracing safety – whether operating riding mowers or large graders – through a variety of safety incentive programs that help drive a culture of safety.

SNF Oil & Gas

To best understand how the safety culture has blossomed at Odessa's SNF Oil & Gas, all you have to do is look at employee engagement and driver safety metrics. In 2024, SNF Oil & Gas safety leaders and employees:

- Reported one minor road incident while drivers logged more than 2.5 million miles and helped the company lower DOT compliance, safety and accountability scores to 0.4.
- Conducted 175 work observations to identify potential hazards and at-risk behaviors by fellow employees. That's up from 50 observations in 2023 and 21 observations in 2022 – another strong affirmation that safety has moved from "compliance" to a "belief" and is part of every employee's everyday mindset.

SNF uses in-vehicle technology to monitor driver behavior, tracks data and generates coaching opportunities. Drivers were coached 227 times last year and, as a result, incidents involving speeding, harsh braking and harsh acceleration declined. Company leaders dedicate time for safety at team meetings and provide support for all safety initiatives. All vehicles are checked at the gate before they leave company grounds to ensure the safety of drivers and the equipment they are operating.

SNF's Celebrate Safety Behavior token program incentivizes safety and includes "Beat the Heart" hydration, safe working and driver behavior components. From health and wellness to policies and procedures, SNF measures the success of its safety program through employee involvement, including participating in incident investigations and monthly team safety meetings. The goal: identify risks, work to properly address them and ensure everyone goes home safely to their families every day.

INNOVATIVE PRACTICES IN TRAFFIC SAFETY

Beldon Roofing

Beldon Roofing, a San Antonio contractor, took an innovative approach to the delivery of its defensive driver training in 2024, using a certified instructor versed in comedy to create engaging sessions that combined humor with critical safety lessons. While employees laughed at facial expressions and absurd examples, they also grew to understand the principles of defensive driving in a memorable and impactful way. In addition, Belton partnered with a national tire chain to ensure its vehicles received top-tier maintenance and tire-safety support. In fact, representatives from the tire chain participated in company-wide safety meetings and educated employees on proper vehicle maintenance and tire care. Next, safe drivers with no behavior notifications tracked via Beldon's telematics system were rewarded with entries into a monthly raffle for home improvement tools. Finally, targeted safety communications were customized to provide weather and traffic alerts, safe driving tips and strategic driving reminders. Specific messages were scheduled to be delivered during team safety meetings so everyone could hear the "ding" of a text together and participate in an interactive experience.

Company safety leaders partnered with the National Safety Council to reinforce campaigns like Distracted Driving Awareness Month. What was the result of this safety innovation? Beldon received the Platinum Safety Program Award from the Midwest Roofing Contractor's Association. Beldon employees worked more than 3.5 million hours and did not sustain a single injury. At a glance, safety metrics showed drivers made strides in a number of areas, including a:

- 7% drop in incomplete stops
- 20% reduction in potential near-collisions
- 50% reduction in handheld phone distractions

Regular maintenance and daily safety inspections, including 360-degree walkarounds by drivers, ensure all vehicles are safe before leaving the yard. The motto at Beldon: We are the best at safety. One reason: Innovation. Safety leaders aren't afraid to explore unconventional and/or creative methods to build on a culture that sets the industry standard.

Star Shuttle LLC

In the fourth quarter of 2024, San Antonio's Star Shuttle awarded more than $25,000 in safe driving recognition bonuses to its employees, including $100 checks to drivers caught on camera taking proactive measures to prevent crash incidents. This cash-incentive program is an innovative example of how Star Shuttle safety leaders have worked to improve operations and retain drivers. They use telematics and technology to monitor driver behavior, create coaching opportunities and track fuel consumption.

In fact, Star Shuttle reduced fuel theft from more than $50,000 in 2023 to less than $500 in 2024. Safety education and training led to two more significant wins:

- Crash incident insurance claims decreased by more than 80%
- Preventable crash incidents declined by 39%

In addition, Star Shuttle business partners can track its school bus fleet and gauge on-time performance of student drop-offs and pick-ups.

If that's not enough to whet your appetite for safety, consider this: Star Shuttle launched its "Eat Right" initiative early in 2025 to help drivers maintain energy levels, improve mental capacity, reduce stress and attain better overall physical health. By prioritizing employee safety on and off the job, Star Shuttle aims to ensure its services are reliable and trustworthy, which builds confidence among clients and partners. Applying alternative methods is one way Star Shuttle gets the safety job done.

WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT
IN TRAFFIC SAFETY
Port of Corpus Christi

In 2024, Port of Corpus Christi safety leaders made significant strides in promoting and enhancing driver safety, using a variety of tactics and targeted awareness campaigns to keep safety top of mind throughout the year. At one point, employees were engaged in a friendly safety competition. Those who continually demonstrated safe driving habits were recognized through the Port's safety awards program. In addition, safety leaders made use of in-vehicle camera technology and coaching opportunities to measure improvement in employee driver behavior. Safety messages were regularly communicated through newsletters and a variety of other channels. By raising awareness, employees became more attuned to critical driver safety risks like distracted driving and impaired driving. Some took advantage of a unique incentive program offering Port workers rideshare service reimbursement. The goal of the program: to increase off-the-job safety.

The Port of Corpus Christi leadership team continued to foster a culture of safety through education and training. Leaders participated during company-wide meetings and events and emphasized a strategy to develop plans at the highest levels and implement them all the way down through the ranks. By promoting safety initiatives and recognizing employees who embrace policies and procedures, Port leaders reinforce the belief that safe driving is a shared responsibility and not only protects individuals but also contributes to a safer community.

SMALL EMPLOYER EXCELLENCE
IN TRAFFIC SAFETY
Global Animal Products

In Amarillo and around much of the Panhandle, Global Animal Products is known for supplying the Texas livestock and poultry industry with essential minerals to help fill animal nutrient gaps. A team of 30 employees is also becoming more widely known for its commitment to safety. In fact, Global Animal Products received the Department of Labor SHARP award and the Texas Lone Star award for outstanding achievement in safety in 2024.

Over the past year, Global's drivers proudly reported:

- No violations
- No crash incidents

This impeccable record is due in part to ongoing training efforts and company policies and procedures that address everything from speed control to distracted driving. Driver training sessions are designed to reaffirm safe driving habits. In addition, Global Animal Products safety leaders regularly update driver manuals, oversee vehicle maintenance protocols and work to ensure the company is in compliance with all DOT and FMCSA guidelines. This is in keeping with one of Global's four core values: Anything worth doing is worth doing safely and to the best of our abilities, every single time.