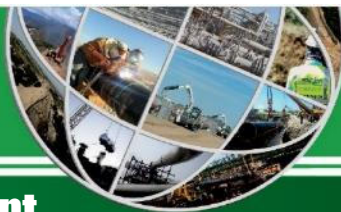


LESSON LEARNT



SICIM

PREPARED BY: Corporate QHSE Dept.

N° 11/2018 Date: November 2018

OBJECT THE WINTER HAZARD: BLACK ICE

In the last years, in the winter period, SICIM reported a number of RTA due to snowy or icy roads. Many drivers are unaware of a common culprit in many of these crashes: the black ice.

"Black ice" is a thin coating of frozen water on a surface which is virtually transparent and difficult to see. Black ice is most likely to occur during periods of light freezing rain, in foggy conditions, or when snow and ice melts and refreezes on wet pavement.

Common problem areas are bridges, overpasses, and shaded areas of the road. These areas have colder surfaces exposed to rapidly freeze when air moisture makes contact.



LEARN POSSIBLE WARNING SIGNS OF BLACK ICE

Black ice looks a lot like wet blacktop. Other indicators include:

1. Absence of water spray on a seemingly wet road;
2. Cars suddenly swerving or skidding;
3. Brake lights ahead;
4. Cars or tire tracks in the ditch;
5. Shiny surfaces next to a dull black.



WAYS TO REACT WHEN YOU ENCOUNTER BLACK ICE

- Avoid making sudden moves or turning the wheel. Take your foot off the accelerator and DO NOT hit the brakes;
- Shift. If possible, slowly shift to a lower gear for greater control of the vehicle;
- Avoid spinout. If your front end is sliding, steer in the opposite direction of the skid; if the back end is sliding, steer in the same direction. Steer gently in the direction you want your car to go;
- Look toward where you want to go. If you look where you think you might crash, then you might inadvertently veer the car in that direction.

A FEW MORE BLACK ICE SAFETY TIPS

- Don't EVER drive in icy or hazardous conditions with your cruise control on;
- Keep windshield and all windows clear of ice and snow, and make sure wiper blades are in good condition;
- Use winter tires (weather-specific tires) and check your tires often, making sure they are properly inflated and in good condition;
- If you can, DON'T DRIVE when the weather is bad. If you can't, drive slowly and NEVER, EVER DRINK AND DRIVE;
- Minimize distractions while you are driving: cell phones, radios, GPS devices, and even other passengers can easily distract you from your most important job: driving safely through dangerous wintery conditions;
- Slow down & extend your braking distance (don't tailgate!) and keep your lights on at all times for increased visibility.

Young drivers often don't know what to do if they hit a patch of black ice. Help your children recognize black ice, the extreme danger it poses and how to deal with it!!

RECEPTION BY THE PROJECT

WHICH ACTIONS IDENTIFIED TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE PROJECT:

Project Manager:

Signature:

HSE Project Manager:

Signature: