## Horses to humans: "Stay off of our tails!" Safe commuting to and from work



By Chris Loomis, Safety Expert

Ask any motorist, insurance provider or, apparently horse and you will hear the same thing; the worst thing about the drive to and from your job is the other people. Oh, it's never you, chatting on your cell phone or texting, or tweeting or whatever you are trying to get done before you get to work.



Don't let texting ruin your drive to work.

When you filled out your paperwork for your last insurance quote, what did you put down in the space for miles driven per year? Did you estimate low or high? If you are like the average driver, you were probably under by about half or even more. Take the average week: starting from Sunday to Saturday evening, keep track of every mile that you drive. (Miles being dragged in a horrified horse's trailer does not count, of course.)

Are you shocked by that amount? If you travel for work that number could be double or triple what you estimate. Whew! That is a lot of driving! You know the saying: the more you drive, the more chances you have of having an accident. In fact, while you have been scanning this brief article, there have been five accidents. (http://www.drdriving.org)

Accidents are easy to prevent, all it takes is paying attention:

- No cell phone, no texting, no Twitter, no Facebook while driving. Period.
- No racing the car beside you, no matter how much that little old lady in the Studebaker is just begging for it.
- No changing lanes without signaling; no changing clothing or diapers at all.
- Breastfeeding should be done when the car is stopped.
- No Barry Manilow while driving. Even ol' Barry himself kicks up the jams when he has to go somewhere.

Have a safe drive to work.

Safety is an attitude that begins in our thoughts. We can create an accident-free environment at work and at home if we believe we can and are committed to the process.

Chris has more than 20 years of professional safety experience. As the marketing manager for DuPont's environmental and safety services, he has seen first-hand the safety challenges faced by plant personnel while working with more than 600 chemical, petrochemical, and manufacturing facilities. Chris is an award-winning international safety speaker and author.