

# Safety on the roadways and highways of life



**By Chris Loomis, Safety Expert**

Have you ever wondered how many auto accidents there are in America each year? In 2005, there were over 6 million at a cost of 230 billion dollars. Almost 3 million people were injured and 42, 636 were killed. Each day in America, someone dies every 12 minutes due to an automobile accident.



Someone said that your chances of dying in an auto accident are about a thousand times more likely than winning the lottery. With statistics like these you're probably wondering if there is such a thing as safety on the road.

Believe it or not, that's mostly up to you. Each time you get into your car, turn on the ignition and start down the street, you should be thinking about safety. The truth is that most motorists think about everything except safety.

Here are a few things that might be running through the head of the average motorist:

- Where will I eat lunch?
- I hate my boss!
- Why didn't my girlfriend/boyfriend call me last night?
- What's that weird noise I hear in my engine?
- Did I leave the iron on?
- Who's on First?

If each driver would simply focus on their driving, imagine all the accidents that could be avoided. Just that one simple change could dramatically alter the statistics and make the roads a lot safer. But we can't count on that happening. So we each need to be prepared for the unexpected.

Here are a few tips to help you get to your destination safely:

- Don't allow yourself to be distracted by phone calls, adjusting the radio, etc.
- Keep an eye on the cars around you.
- Never drive when your faculties are impaired by alcohol or drugs!
- Wear your seatbelt!

These are just a few of the many areas we all need to work on in order to bring safety to our roads and highways. It takes a joint effort to improve our chances of arriving safely to our destination.

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.

**For more information or to book your next safety speaker, please visit <http://www.safetyattitude.com> or call Chris Loomis at 713-927-6592.**