

# THE GREEN LIGHT

The official newsletter of ATA Comp Fund



## HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

Safe Winter Driving - 2  
Hand Held Distractions - 3  
Fund News - 4

## NEW YEAR, FRESH PERSPECTIVE

At the ATA Comp Fund, we want to keep our Members informed with the latest news and information that could impact you, your company and your employees. We have revitalized our Newsletter with a fresh look and hope to provide relevant information to the trucking and transportation-related industries we serve.

If you have any suggestions for material for future issues of *The Green Light*, we encourage you to submit them to [Marketing@ATACompFund.org](mailto:Marketing@ATACompFund.org). As always, we *Thank You* for the trust you place in the Fund as we continue to provide the most comprehensive coverage and support for your company and employees.

# SAFE WINTER DRIVING

*Driving in winter conditions can present serious hazards for drivers. The fatal crash last week in Fort Worth, Texas is proof of how dangerous driving conditions can become. Make sure you (and your vehicle) are prepared.*

Follow company safety policies/safe-work procedures:

- Check ground conditions before exiting cab and use three points of contact while entering and exiting cabs.
- Remember to "shuffle" your feet if you have to walk on frozen ground and use hand rails or other aids where provided.
- Never get on top of a flatbed trailer if it has ice on it and check ladders to ensure there is no ice accumulation.
- Alert other drivers by reporting hazards such as poor weather or road conditions to your Supervisor/Driver Manager.
- Wear your seat belt! Although a no-brainer, wearing your seat belt during the winter is even more critical. An alarming number of road ice fatalities occur with minor accidents where the occupants were not wearing seat belts.

✔ **Watch for "Black Ice".** Don't be fooled, black ice is invisible. Shaded areas, bridges and overpasses freeze sooner than other areas, even in the sunshine.

✔ **SLOW. IT. DOWN.** Drop your speed and allow for more stopping distance. It takes longer to stop on a slippery road. Look ahead and keep plenty of distance between you and other vehicles (at least 4 seconds).

✔ **Know how to handle a skid.** Ease off the brake or accelerator. As the vehicle regains traction, steer smoothly in the direction you want to go.

✔ **Avoid sudden moves.** Start slowly and accelerate gradually to maintain traction and avoid spinning your wheels. Never brake suddenly and plan well in advance. Apply the brakes gently and slowly add pressure.

✔ **Be visible.** Snow impairs visibility. Drivers need to see and be seen in low-light conditions. Always drive with your headlights on.



“

**Visit the Risk Management [Educational Resources](#) on our website to learn more. Members of the ATA Comp Fund have access to many training tools, including [winter-driving online training](#).**

# HAND HELD DISTRACTIONS

*Don't let your smart phone cause you to make a fatal decision.*

## EMPLOYERS

- Develop a company-wide **Hands Free Policy**
- Designate cellphone use areas and cellphone-free zones on your property.
- Train drivers to stay in their cab or other safe area and to use designated walking paths during loading/unloading.
- Restrict cell phone use to breaks and lunchtime.

## DRIVERS/EMPLOYEES

- Keep your phone in your pocket when you are in the yard, terminal or loading dock.
- **DO NOT** text while driving.
- Stay aware of your surroundings. The inappropriate use of cell phones impairs driver and/or employee ability to recognize and react to hazards.
- Never use cell phones during the use of industrial equipment or powered industrial trucks.
- **DO NOT** use cell phones around flammable vapors or dust.

“

Download the [National Safety Council's Distracted Driving Policy](#) for your company. Members of the ATA Comp Fund have complimentary membership in the [NSC](#), with access to current safety information, new products, training and services.



# FUND NEWS



## FORMATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At the ATA Comp Fund, we are always looking to further our initiatives to provide the most comprehensive Risk Management services to our Members. 2020 was a challenge for everyone and we are looking at 2021 as a pivotal year. One initiative that will be rolling out this year is the establishment of a ***Risk Management Advisory Committee***. This Committee will consist of 10-15 forward-thinking individuals from selected Members that are taking the next step in safety culture and implementing engineering/administrative measures to improve their companies.

The goal of this Committee is to bring together industry leaders to discuss current topics, new injury trends, safety initiatives, and develop resolutions to reduce risks within the industry. After several successful years of using data analytics and predictive modeling to reduce Member losses, we are looking for the next wave of tools and data to further reduce exposures and keep employees safe.

The committee will meet at the ATA Comp Fund office in Montgomery on a semi-annual basis to contribute their knowledge, resources, and experience in order to provide the most comprehensive program for our Members.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: RISK MANAGEMENT

Expertise matters.



**Don Anchors**  
CDS, TRS, CBES  
Director of Risk Management



**Michael Smith**  
CDS, TRS, SSH  
Risk Manager



**Victor Whatley**  
CSP, CDS, TRS  
Risk Manager



**Candy Woodruff**  
CDS, TRS, SSH  
Risk Manager



**Will Moses**  
TRS, CSS, SSH  
Risk Manager

“

**A copy of our most recent Financials can be found on our website.**