

## Road Worker Safety



***Road workers spend their working days in a dynamic fast-moving work environment. For them, being situationally aware of what is happening in and around them at all times is critical to their safe return home each day.***

The average fatality rate for those maintaining the road network is one of the highest amongst employment sectors. In the last ABS report on work related injuries, road workers such as labourers and machinery operators had the highest rates of people who experienced a work-related injury or illness.

Road worker safety approaches have continually assessed working practices in order to reduce risks to road workers. This coupled with reducing vehicle speed and monitoring driver compliance through road works have seen significant improvements.

Further driver education is critical but further road worker education is also as important. Road workers need a better understanding of what situational awareness is, how easily it is lost and what personal techniques they can use to ensure it is maintained.

The SAFE4 road worker program focuses on the individual worker - it is about and for them – there is no group work. It quickly answers the question, 'What is in it for me?' It provides employees with the tools and techniques to:

- Improve their situational safety awareness
- Easily identify environmental conditions and emotional states that increase the likelihood of a preventable incident
- Create their own 'SAFE4' - the activities to which they commit to keep themselves switched on and situationally aware