



The Porcelain Press

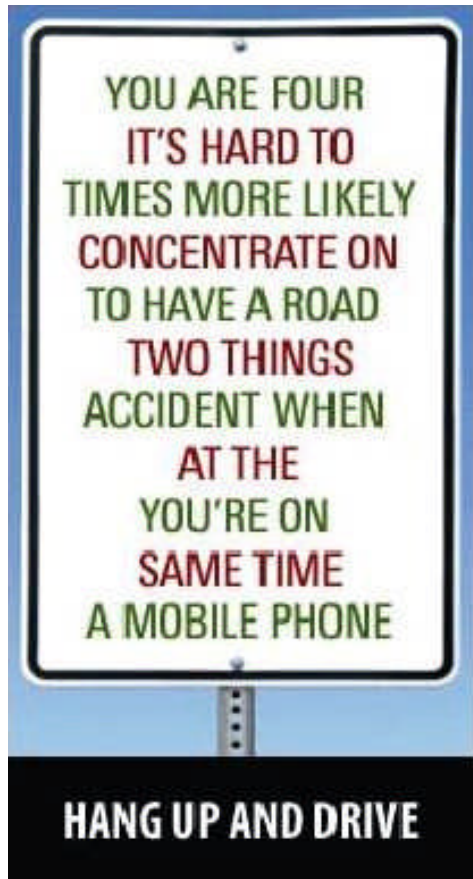
NSWC Indian Head Division
Safety Department Newsletter

14th InSTALLment

Distributed to a Restroom near you

May 2008/June 2008

Accept it..... you can't concentrate on two things at once!!!



SAFETY-DOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x2 box contains every letter from the word "SAFETY". Correctly solve the SAFETY-DUKO puzzle and email the solution to raymond.geckle@navy.mil by 27 June. Ten correct entries will be randomly selected from all correct submissions to receive a safety award.

Difficulty Rating



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Ask the Safety Wiz

Send your questions to the Safety Wizard at raymond.geckle@navy.mil

Dear Wiz: I started to write you for advice about a specific safety issue, but as I reread my letter I realized how utterly ridiculous it would sound to you and your average reader. I myself would conclude that I am unsafe, and I'm pretty sure I could predict what you would tell me. As an intelligent, relatively well adjusted employee, I know in my head what the safest thing to do is, and yet I will ignore it completely and plunge head-first into a situation that may end badly.

So my question is, why do people do this? Is it a need to learn for myself? - *Confused*

Dear Confused: Understanding why we ignore safe practices clearly isn't enough. Just talk to anyone who has been involved in a mishap or near miss. They have all learned the lesson the hard way. Most of these involved bad decisions made by people who knew better.

The real question is, why aren't we more motivated to make safe decisions in the first place? Only you can identify what's interrupting your decision making process. Safe decision making is based on following procedures, situational awareness, understanding complacency, readiness, and a willingness to stop operations when unexpected conditions occur. These elements are the stuff of safe decision making. With them, people not only have less to gain from unsafe decisions, but also more to lose.

Dear Wiz: My supervisor told me that every time I perform an unsafe act, an angel will lose its wings. That seems like a fair arrangement to me, but is there any risk the wingless angel would fall on my head and kill me? - *Curious*

Dear Curious: I would worry about the unsafe acts killing you first. Wingless angels generally burn up on reentry. It's nothing that a little shampoo can't cure.

As Dirty Harry said, when it comes to safety "A man's got to know his limitations."