INCIDENT ALERT

LOCATION: **On-Highway**

ACTIVITY: Transport

SUB ACTIVITY: Mobile Plant

TITLE

Use of mobile phones

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT DETAILS

A Notice of Intended Prosecution has been received from Warwickshire Police in respect of an agency driver who was using a hand held mobile phone whilst driving a company haulage vehicle.

The Notice alleges that the driver committed one or more of three offences:

- Dangerous driving.

- Driving without due care and attention.

- Driving holding hand-held mobile phone.

The observation was made by a police officer on a Monday morning. The driver was observed to be turning left using his left hand whilst driving in a 20mph school safety zone.

Warwickshire Police have requested the driver[™]s name, the company policy on driving whilst using a phone and the driver™s tachograph for the previous 21 days. As a result of the incident the driver has been dismissed.

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT IMAGES

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Drivers are reminded of the company policy on the use of mobile phones whilst driving:

- A •hands-free• kit, or device that achieves the same level of safety e.g.•Bluetooth• system, must be used.

- The phone is only to be operated by pressing a single, easily accessible button or by using a •voice command• facility.

- It must be safe to use the mobile phone taking into consideration driving conditions.

- Calls are only made when they are important and cannot be delayed.

- The duration of incoming and outgoing calls must be kept to an absolute minimum.

- Drivers must not send or read text messages whilst operating a vehicle.

People making calls to mobile phones are responsible for encouraging compliance with these requirements. They must keep the duration of a conversation with a driver to a minimum and must always check in the first instance that it is safe for the driver to receive the call.

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS IMAGES

ALERT STATUS:	Normal
DATE ISSUED:	20/07/06
INCIDENT No:	00052