

CONCRETE MIXER TRUCK DEFENSIVE DRIVING: BLIND SPOT SAFETY

This bulletin provides details on concrete mixer truck blind spots and defensive driving tips to recognize those blind spots and avoid potential incidents while driving.

Concrete trucks have significant blind spots due to their size and shape. These blind spots are areas around the truck that are not visible to the driver through the standard mirrors. The main blind spots are:

- Directly behind the truck
- Alongside the truck, especially on the passenger side
- Directly in front of the truck, particularly close to the bumper

The Risks

Failing to properly monitor and manage these blind spots can result in serious accidents, including

- Collisions with pedestrians, cyclists, or other vehicles
- Property damage
- Personal injury or fatalities
- Increased liability and legal consequences

Best Practices for Blind Spot Safety

Perform Thorough Pre-Trip Inspections:

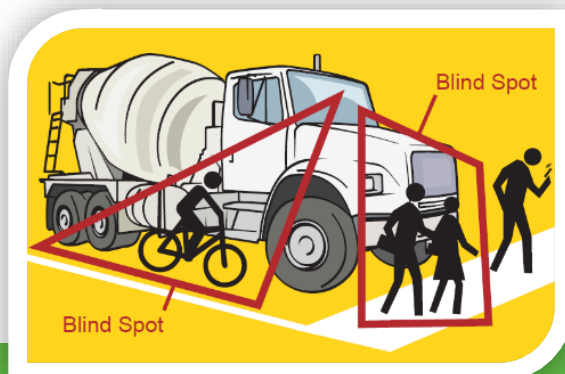
Check Mirrors and Cameras - ensure all mirrors and any installed cameras or sensors are clean, properly adjusted, and functioning correctly.

Test Equipment - verify that all safety equipment, such as backup alarms and lights, are operational.

Frequent Mirror Checks - regularly check your mirrors, especially when maneuvering or changing lanes.

Signal Early - use your turn signals well in advance to alert other road users of your intentions.

Use a Spotter - when maneuvering in tight spaces or busy areas, rely on a spotter to guide you and provide information about your blind spots.



Clear Communication - Maintain clear and constant communication with your spotter using hand signals or two-way radios.

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Adopt Safe Driving Practices:

Slow and Steady - drive at a controlled speed, especially in congested or unfamiliar areas.

Wide Turns - take wide turns to ensure you have a clear view of your surroundings and to give other road users enough space.

Safe Following Distance - maintain a safe distance from other vehicles to give yourself more time to react and to keep blind spots clear.

Stay Vigilant - always be aware of your surroundings and anticipate potential hazards.

Companies can additionally help by Using Technology Aids:

Cameras and Sensors - utilize cameras and sensors that provide visual and audio alerts for objects in your blind spots.

Blind Spot Detection Systems - if available, use these systems to get real-time information about the areas you cannot see.

