



# **Vision Zero: Fleets Safety Forum**

## **The Waste and Recycling Industry's Perspective**



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# Background

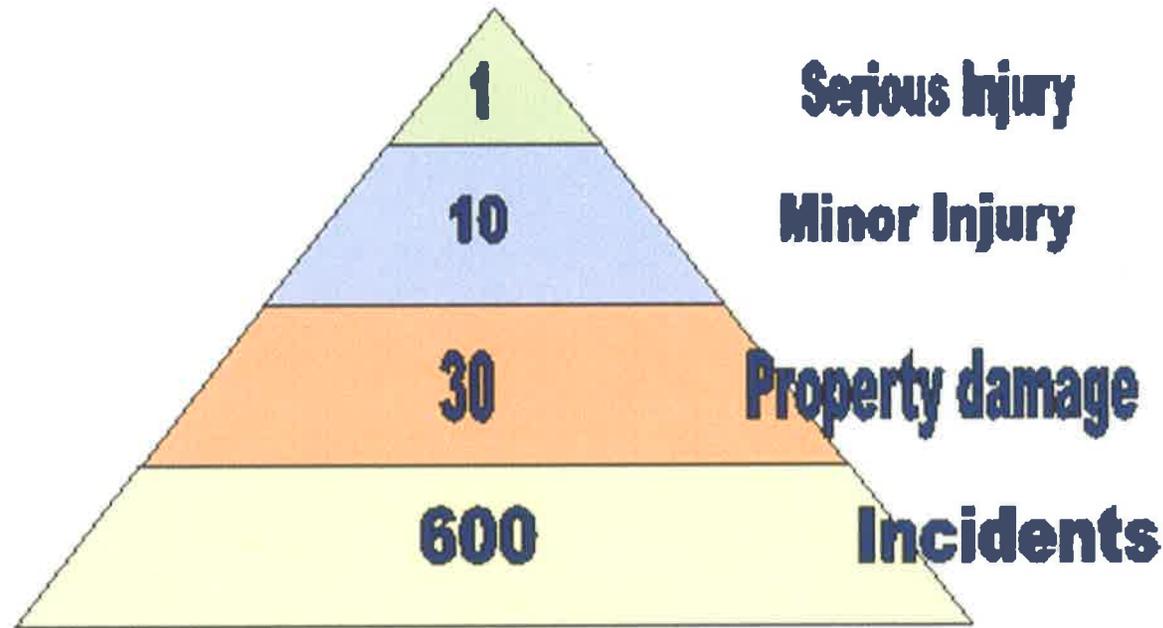
1. Waste and recycling industry has made significant strides improving its safety record over the past 15 years.
  - A. Worker fatality rate down 60%
  - B. Worker injury rate down 50%
  - C. Third party accident rate is declining
  
2. Significant challenges still remain:
  - A. Distracted drivers
  - B. Distracted pedestrians
  - C. More trucks on the road as we recycle more material



# Changing Behavior is Key

- The majority of accidents and injuries are caused by unsafe BEHAVIOR, not unsafe conditions.
  - Thousands of refuse and recycling trucks go out every day, and a very small percentage of them are involved in accidents.
- Safety = getting adults to change their unsafe behavior.
- Includes both workers and the general public (other drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians)

# Focus on Behavior



Although the majority of accidents are minor (mailboxes, parked cars), the behaviors that cause these incidents are often the same as those that lead to more serious accidents or fatalities. The cost of the minor accidents adds up over time.



# Decision Making – On the Route

What are the typical bad decisions that get solid waste drivers and other truck drivers into unsafe situations?

1. Not fit for work
2. Inadequate Pre-Trip or Post-Trip
3. Rushing/Excessive Speed
4. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
5. Safety Belt
6. Cell phones, texting and other distractions
7. Lack of communication with helper or other drivers



# How to Reduce Accidents

1. Initial and follow up training:
  - Driving in NYC
  - Pre-trip and post-trip inspections
2. Route Observation:
  - Observe workers on routes
  - Coach if not following rules: Talk to them not at them
3. Safety meetings and communications
4. Incentives/Discipline/Termination
5. Equipment/Technology – telematics/cameras/lighting/collision avoidance systems, etc.



# DOT/OSHA/ANSI/NYC Compliance

- Every single business day, an OSHA inspector shows up at a solid waste employer to perform an inspection.
- Increased DOT focus – CSA, Hours of Service, etc.
- NYC requires carters to comply with many rules (DSNY, DOT, BIC, DEP, et al)
- ANSI Z245.1 standards
  - National consensus safety standards for the waste industry

**By frequently reminding our drivers and helpers about being compliant with applicable rules, we change the culture and get them to think more about safety as a core value.**

# Improving Your Safety Program

- Look for patterns – time of day, type of accident or injury, certain employees (repeaters), temporary workers or weather conditions.
- Identify a few priorities based on frequency and/or severity.





# Getting Workers to Care About Safety

What's in it for them?

1. Make it personal – e.g., PPE, seatbelts.
2. Incentives/discipline.

Communicate the program:

1. Signs/posters – make it interesting.
2. Verbal reminders.

Training:

1. Short, ongoing, interactive.
2. Be aware of language and literacy barriers.
3. Video – YouTube and other sources.
4. Use humor...



**NW&RA's New York City chapter is endorsing Vision Zero and will be giving out bumper stickers to members to put on their trucks to promote the program.**



[www.wasterecycling.org](http://www.wasterecycling.org)