



TOIRMA Update

By Jim Donelan

TOIRMA Executive Director

Winter is here!! Safety Checklist



WINTER IS HERE IN ILLINOIS! At the East Central Illinois Highway Commissioners Association regional meeting in Gifford, Illinois the talk of the meeting was the forthcoming winter storm. The irony with this concern was that not even one week prior the temperature was nearly 60 degrees. The result of this weather event here in Springfield was over 11 inches of snow and freezing temperature. Central Illinois is not alone. Earlier this winter the northwestern part of the state was hit by a blizzard dumping well over this amount of snow in a 24-hour period, while other areas of the state were not nearly impacted as much. The weather in Illinois is not

only unpredictable at times but varies exponentially depending on where you are located. There is a direct correlation with weather conditions and the number of claims generated in any given TOIRMA Program Year. Winter is here, and we want you and your employees to be prepared and safe.

In recent months, this column and our newsletter, *TOIRMA News*, has focused on safety in cold weather conditions. In keeping with this trend, we would like our members to assist in helping to reduce injuries and accidents this season. The following checklists will aid in these efforts.

Checklist for Equipment		Checklist for Drivers
<input type="checkbox"/> Brakes and Emergency Brakes in Good Working Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Windshield Solvent	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Clothes
<input type="checkbox"/> Defroster/Heater Working	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil, Power Steering and Brake Fluids	<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves and Hat
<input type="checkbox"/> Gauges Working Properly	<input type="checkbox"/> Headlights Working	<input type="checkbox"/> Blanket
<input type="checkbox"/> Windshield Wiper Blades in Good Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Back-up Lights Working	<input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight
<input type="checkbox"/> Horn Functioning	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Lights Working	<input type="checkbox"/> Shovel
<input type="checkbox"/> Antifreeze in Radiator	<input type="checkbox"/> Turn Signals Working	<input type="checkbox"/> High Calorie Foods/Water
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mirrors Inside and Outside	<input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary Cab Heater
		<input type="checkbox"/> CB/FM Radio

For more information regarding winter safety, please visit the *Risk Reminders* section of our webpage in the *TOIRMA Toolbox*, toirma.org/loss-control.

In addition, it is equally important to help keep yourselves safe. During a recent conversation with TOIRMA Loss Control Consultants Matt Knight and Sean Richardson, we discussed the uptick in slips and falls during the winter months. Our team came up with the following graphic designed to assist our members and their employees in keeping the hazards present during the winter months as a part of their daily thought process.



Regardless of the weather conditions, it is always important for equipment operators to remember the “Three-Point-Contact” rule. Two hands and one foot, or two feet and one hand. Practicing this simple safety procedure when getting on and off vehicles and equipment will help keep individuals safe and free from injury. When getting on or off, individuals should face the vehicle or equipment and keep either both hands and one foot, or two feet and one hand in contact with the vehicle or equipment. This helps maintain a person’s center of gravity and they are less likely to lose their balance and get injured.

TOIRMA has a new “Three-Point Contact” sticker available for our members to use. The sticker is

designed to fit on the steps of vehicles and equipment and serves as a reminder to operators the importance of safety, and the three-point rule. Please obtain “Three-Point Contact” stickers for your equipment by contacting Debbie Prentice at (217) 444-1204 or dprentice@ccmsi.com.

Also available is a “Mounting and Dismounting” Risk Reminder. This may be downloaded at toirma.org on the “Tool Box” page. Please feel free to print off this reminder and distribute it to your employees and hang it in your work areas.



Thank you for your consideration of these safety items. Have a safe winter.

As always, if you have questions, please feel free to contact me toll-free at (888) 562-7861 or by email at jdonelan@toirma.org.

Think Safe ... Drive Safe ... Work Safe

TOIRMA Annual Renewal Packets – Due March 1, 2019

During the month of January all TOIRMA member contacts were mailed the Annual Renewal Packets.

At least the supervisor and highway commissioner should review and send back the requested information.

Renewal Packets include the following:

- (1) comprehensive General Liability Questionnaire,
- (2) listing of the Values for Vehicles; Inland Marine Equipment; and Buildings/Contents, and
- (3) listing of Estimated Payroll.

Your coverage is dependent on the accuracy of this information, so your reply is key. Renewal packets are due to TOIRMA by March 1, 2019.