



## Blind Spots and Safe Maneuvering

### *What this Safety Talk Covers:*

The “Dos” and “Don’ts” for preventing vehicle accidents due to blind spots at a worksite or in the oilfield.

### *Discussion Notes:*

Discuss the outcomes of the “Dos” and “Don’ts.”

- Do**
  - ✓ Complete a full 360-degree walkaround before moving your vehicle or equipment.
  - ✓ Use a spotter when backing up or maneuvering in tight spaces, particularly near frac tanks, flare stacks or between rows of pipe where visibility is obstructed.
  - ✓ Communicate clearly with other crews working in the area before moving any large equipment or vehicles. Miscommunication between operators and roustabouts can lead to serious incidents.
  - ✓ Double-check blind spots in high-traffic areas like loading zones, chemical transfer stations, near portable buildings and in other spaces where workers may be walking or standing without being seen.
  - ✓ Ensure mirrors and backup cameras are clean and properly adjusted before use. Mud, dust and grime can quickly obscure your view.
  - ✓ Maintain awareness of changes to the site layout. Equipment is moved often in the oilfield, and yesterday’s clear path may be today’s blind spot hazard.
- Don’t**
  - ✗ Assume spotters see everything—their visibility may be limited, too, especially in low-light or dusty conditions common at pipeline and drilling sites.
  - ✗ Rely solely on backup alarms to alert nearby workers. Loud environments like compressor stations or near generator trailers can drown them out.
  - ✗ Skip your walkaround, even if you’re “just moving a few feet”—many accidents happen during short, routine maneuvers.
  - ✗ Park in blind spots near wellheads, manifold or egress routes, where you may block emergency access or create a hazard for other drivers.
  - ✗ Use handheld radios or phones while maneuvering equipment.
  - ✗ Ignore temporary signs, cones or flags, even if you think you know the site. Conditions on a site change constantly and signs are there for a reason.





# TEXAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION SAFETY TALKS

an initiative of the **TXOGA** Workers' Compensation Safety Group

## Employee Quiz Blind Spots and Safe Maneuvering

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the correct answer below.

1. Before moving a vehicle or equipment, you should always:
  - a. Perform a 360-degree walkaround
  - b. Honk the horn twice
  - c. Turn on the windshield wipers
  - d. Ask your supervisor for permission
2. In high-noise oilfield environments like near compressor stations, why shouldn't you rely only on backup alarms?
  - a. They're not allowed in those areas
  - b. They're only audible to the driver
  - c. The alarms may blend into background noise and go unheard
  - d. Backup alarms automatically disable in loud areas
3. Which of the following is NOT a recommended practice?
  - a. Using a spotter in tight spaces
  - b. Relying solely on your spotter to notice hazards
  - c. Cleaning mirrors and cameras before use
  - d. Watching for foot traffic near pipe yards
4. Site layout changes frequently. What should you do to stay safe?
  - a. Ignore cones and temporary signage
  - b. Always park near the same landmarks
  - c. Assume yesterday's path is still safe today
  - d. Stay alert to new obstacles and equipment placements
5. A walkaround is only necessary if you're moving a vehicle more than 50 feet.
  - a. True
  - b. False

Training record: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Jobsite/Facility: \_\_\_\_\_  
Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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