



Safety Alert

Winter Vehicle Maintenance: Best Practices for Businesses



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Winter weather can be tough on vehicles. Also, a poorly maintained vehicle is a safety hazard to your drivers and others on the road. For businesses that rely on transportation, it's crucial to ensure that vehicles are well-maintained and ready to handle the challenges of winter driving. Here are some best practices for winter vehicle maintenance:

- 1. Regularly Check Tire Pressure:** Cold temperatures can cause tire pressure to drop. Encourage employees to check their tire pressure regularly and keep tires inflated to the manufacturer's recommended level. Keep a tire gauge readily available in the glove box or trunk.
- 2. Inspect Tires for Tread Depth:** Good tire tread is essential for safe winter driving. Tires should be inspected for adequate tread depth and replaced if necessary.
- 3. Keep Fluids Filled Up:** Ensure that all vehicle fluids, including antifreeze, oil, and windshield washer fluid, are kept at optimal levels. Consider using a winter-grade oil in extremely cold temperatures. Keep your fuel tank at least half full or more.
- 4. Check Battery Health:** Cold weather can be hard on vehicle batteries. Have the battery and charging system checked for optimum performance.
- 5. Maintain Wiper Blades:** Visibility is key to safe driving. Replace worn wiper blades and use a windshield washer fluid suitable for freezing weather conditions.
- 6. Service the Brakes:** Brakes should be inspected and serviced regularly to ensure they are in good working condition.
- 7. Equip Vehicles with a Winter Survival Kit:** Equip all business vehicles with a winter survival kit that includes items like a snow brush, ice scraper, shovel, jumper cables, flashlight, blankets, and a first-aid kit.



By following these best practices, businesses can help ensure the safety and reliability of their vehicles during the winter months. Remember, a well-maintained vehicle is key to safe and efficient winter driving. Get prepared BEFORE winter weather arrives.

For more information on winter workplace safety, please contact your Strategic Comp Loss Prevention Consultant.

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