



Fall 2011 Communicade

The Company Periodical for Premier Security Inc. & Vanguard Security Services Ltd.

Autumn is one of the most beautiful times of the year as nature seems to become more vivid. Rich colours and crisp weather, although refreshing, should remind us of seasonal safety issues as well. In our industry we need to prepare for the changing weather perhaps more so than others. Please be reminded of the following recommendations and reminders.

As autumn comes into full swing, the temperatures may lower in your area, which can lead to several safety issues. When using portable space heaters to warm the house, keep them away from water, curtains and flammable items. Do not leave a space heater unattended and buy one that shuts off automatically if it falls over. Keep your home ventilated even if the temperatures drop to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Use carbon monoxide detectors and have your home heating systems inspected before the temperature drops.

There are multiple autumn safety issues that relate to the driving. Since days are getting shorter during the fall, more driving will occur when it is dark. This can lead to drowsiness which leads to more accidents. Plan for more rest throughout the season. School buses will now be present in the morning and small children walking to the bus. Leaves may cover the road and become slippery with weather. This requires careful road travel, especially for bicycles and motorcycles. Tire pressure can be affected by the cool nights and warm days of autumn. Make sure to check on tire pressure throughout the season.

One of the downsides of fall is that with it comes cold and flu season. Some recommendations to keep in mind: Consider getting a flu vaccination with your Doctor advice. While it's not pleasant, it's much better than coming down with the flu, which can linger for weeks, and in some cases it can even be fatal.

If you do get sick, don't go to work unless you absolutely have to. A cold or flu can spread around an office quickly, ruining productivity.

Always wash your hands carefully. One of the best ways to avoid a cold or the flu is to wash your hands regularly. Make sure the water is hot, use plenty of soap, and keep the hands under the water for at least 30 seconds.

As the weather turns and the temperature drops, people are going to be looking for easy ways to stay warm. However, there are a few safety tips to keep in mind:

Resist the temptation to use gas ovens or ranges as a heat source. It may seem like a good way to quickly heat up the kitchen when it's chilly out, but the unvented gas could actually build to combustible levels. When you use a space heater, make sure that it isn't too close to anything else. Because of the heat generated by space heaters, there's a danger that nearby objects, specifically fabric like drapes or upholstery, can ignite and cause a fire. As a rule of thumb, you shouldn't have anything closer than three feet from a space heater. Always make sure to unplug the heater when it's not in use.

On the topic of fire prevention, you should take the opportunity of the advent of autumn to replace any used or expired fire extinguishers you may have around the house or workplace with company and client approval.

vanguard Gives Back

Vanguard attended a "30-for-30" event last Thursday which raised funds for Habitat for Humanity in order to build a low-income town home complex in Burnaby. Vanguard was pleased to donate our resources to help make this event a success.

Habitat for Humanity believes in making affordable housing accessible to families who are forced to choose between providing shelter and providing food. Between paying rent and paying bills. They believe these are choices no family should have to make.

To inquire go to:
<http://www.habitat.ca>



Premier is honoured to, once again, be part of BIV's Book of Lists. This year we ranked 11th Biggest Security Company in BC. By deduction we are also the 6th largest locally owned "guard company" in BC as well. Congratulations Premier!

We would like to welcome Ms. Pia Baltazar to our team. Pia brings with her extensive sales and marketing experience and a



Bachelors of Science, Major in Marketing Management. You may have had contact with her already regarding payroll questions. Welcome aboard Pia!

Deter Theft from Auto

By following the simple steps listed below, you can greatly reduce the chance your car will be broken into.

1. Park in a well lit area whenever possible.
2. Remove everything from your car including sunglasses, loose change, cigarettes, CDs and clothing. Thieves will steal anything.
3. Place this crime-prevention card flat on the car seat closest to the sidewalk, facing the window.



To download this seatmap in actual size go to:

<http://vancouver.ca/police/assets/pdf/brochures/vpd-seatmat.pdf>

Jas' Journal



Don't forget to use a tissue, or raise your arm up to your face to cough or sneeze into your sleeve. If you use a tissue, dispose of it as soon as possible and wash your hands immediately. Twenty seconds of hand washing with warm water and soap helps remove bacteria and viruses. Remember to wash before and after eating, after using the bathroom, after coughing or sneezing, and after touching surfaces that may have been contaminated by other people. As a last resort hand sanitizer may be used. Doorknobs, light switches, telephones, keyboards and other surfaces can become contaminated with all kinds of germs. Clean surfaces regularly!

Is Course Work Worth It?

On a weekly basis we meet applicants vying for positions in the security field. They come to us with resumes consisting of pages of credentials and qualifications. They have OFA tickets, various versions of an advanced BST certificate, customer services courses, self-defence training and certifications, etc., etc. all taken and paid for in order to make them either appear worthy of employment or of a higher-than-average starting wage.

Although education of all kinds should be seen as an investment, we find these kinds of courses do not typically effect our assessment of an applicant.

We look for the right mindset, not skill set. Granted, there are certain qualifications that are mandated by the government, and thankfully so, such as holding a BST certificate and a valid Security License, but other than those two items, we are much more concerned with "who" you are.

In a recent article in the Globe & Mail entitled, "Why mindset can trump skill set", Harvey Schachter reveals that recent research indicates that in 92% of companies, "mindset utterly trumps skill set. Not by a little, but by a landslide".

We believe that is why trying to win the best positions with yet-more skills training "is like training for a marathon by doing sprints".

Your mindset is about what you see, think, and believe. It's effectiveness is about how far you reach to understand everyday challenges, seeing the world in



Thank you BOMA!

We are happy to celebrate BOMA's 100th Anniversary (Building Owners & Managers Association) in British Columbia.

The Association kindly donated a limited edition print of the Vancouver skyline created by Barb Wood to its membership this year. Next time you are in the office have a look!

a way that benefits those around you and, being able to weather adversity and be better for it.

If you can convince an employer that you are available when they need you, will act professionally to solve problems and look good doing it, then you will have a much better chance at advancement.

All employees are required to accurately record all hours worked (including training) on their timesheets. Any overtime must be clearly explained in the comment section of your timesheet for approval to be considered. Completed time sheet forms can be faxed, posted or emailed on weekly basis.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StTS6qtMqFg>



To watch a tire safety video go to the Youtube address above



Tire Safety

Keeping your tires in good repair should be an ongoing concern. Monthly checks on the condition of your vehicle's tires make it easier for you to accelerate, brake and steer. Other pluses include fuel efficiency and less wear, which saves you money and protects the environment. Here are some tips for maintaining your tires:

Check the tire information label (inside driver's door) for the maximum recommended load for your vehicle and proper pressure for your tires.

Check tire pressure at least once a month, including your spare tire.

Inspect tires for uneven tread wear, cuts or cracks, bulges and foreign objects.

Rotate your tires on a regular basis. When inflating your tires, make sure the pump and tire valves have caps and are free of obstructions.

Always check tire pressure before going on a long trip. When installing new tires, make sure they are all the same type, size, speed rating and load index. Register your new tires with the manufacturer upon purchase.

Respect posted speed limits.

Hazard Alert

From your Health & Safety Committee & WorkSafeBC

Distracted attention—mobile phone use and walking

This bulletin looks at how using a mobile phone can affect a pedestrian's attention, body position, visual field and safety. Widespread research shows that there is increased distraction and collisions associated with mobile phone use when driving. However, it is also increasingly recognized that pedestrians, whose attention is distracted because they are talking on a mobile phone, increase their chances of being involved in an accident.

What happened? – Sadly, A True Story

At an active construction site, sections of land were being preloaded with sand and gravel. Settlement gauges had been installed. The section manager arrived and parked at the worksite. While the manager was parking his vehicle, two loaded dump trucks with trailers approached the staging area. One truck waited. The driver of the second truck unhitched the trailer and reversed towards the landing to release its load.



Crossing a street can be risky for pedestrians talking or texting on cell phones. Researchers have a term for the result — "inattention blindness" — and say it's getting worse. Photo: New York Times, RICHARD PERRY / HC

After leaving his vehicle, the manager walked across the landing to check the height of the settlement gauges. While he was walking, he made a call on his mobile phone to the engineer about the gauges. Meanwhile, the truck was still reversing and the backup alarm was sounding normally. The driver was in visual contact with the spotter through his side-view mirror. The spotter briefly turned away from the reversing dump truck to check behind him, and at the same time, the manager crossed behind him and into the path of the truck. The spotter did not notice him. Still talking on the phone, the manager stopped with his back to the truck, unaware that it was backing up immediately behind him. The truck's rear tires snagged the back of his leg and pulled him under the truck. He later died from his injuries.

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/Publications/Posters.asp?page=1>

