

<b>Babic Construction</b>	Reference:	
	Date	<b>11<sup>th</sup> February 2008</b>
<b>SAFE WORK PROCEDURE</b> <b>Use of Mobile Phones in Vehicles</b>	Revision:	<b>Version 1</b>
	Approved:	<b>Tony Babic</b>
	<b>Current until end February 2011</b>	

**EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION**

This Safe Work Procedures covers the use of any Mobile Phone whilst driving in vehicles.

Whilst this procedure relates specifically to employees on business for Babic Construction, the dangers associated with the use of mobile phones whilst driving remain the same in private vehicles as well.



**SAFETY INFORMATION**

The operation of any motor vehicle or item of mobile equipment requires the operator to have and maintain full control of that motor vehicle.

Research has shown that using a mobile phone while driving may be equivalent to driving with an illegal blood alcohol concentration of more than 0.08.

The incidence of using mobile phones while driving has increased by more than 50 per cent in two years. In 2001 police in SA issued 3062 infringement notices for this offence. In 2003 the number of infringements issued was 4588. These numbers are representative of figures in all states.

**In NSW it is illegal to drive or ride a vehicle while using a hand-held mobile phone. The penalty is a significant fine and three demerit points.**

This means that talking, sending or receiving text messages, playing games or taking photos are illegal when using a hand-held phone. It is also illegal to perform these activities when your vehicle is stopped but not parked, for example when you are waiting at traffic lights.

A hands-free device can reduce the physical effort to make and receive calls but it doesn't necessarily make it safe to use a phone while driving. It is illegal to use a hands-free phone while driving if it causes you to lose proper control of your vehicle. The penalty is a significant fine and demerit points.

**If you must talk on a hands-free phone while driving:**

- Make sure it is a hands-free phone that is set up and working before you start driving.
- Keep the conversation short. Don't engage in complex or emotional conversations.
- Tell the person on the other end that you are driving and may have to end the call.
- Never text message (SMS) while driving.
- End the call if it is distracting you from driving.

**Remember, if you don't have proper control of your vehicle because you are talking on a hands-free mobile phone you are guilty of an offence.**

**If you receive a call on a mobile phone whilst you are driving, pull to the side of the road, if it is safe to do so and then answer the call.**

**OPERATION**

**Babic Construction employees are not to operate hand held mobile phones whilst in control of a motor vehicle.**

**REFERENCES**

<http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/driverdistractions/index.html>  
[http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/rss/content/safer\\_people/road\\_users/mobile\\_phone\\_campaign.htm](http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/rss/content/safer_people/road_users/mobile_phone_campaign.htm)