

media release

Top Ten Tips to Drive Safe this Summer

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3 December 2010

Drivers are reminded to drive safely over the holiday season. The Christmas holiday period is a great time to get away with the family but it is also critical to ensure your safety on the roads.

"There is nothing more important than arriving home safe" said a Transurban spokesman Peter Colacino, "Keep yourself and your family safe by remembering a few simple tips for summer driving."

"Around 1 in 4 fatal crashes in New South Wales during the last 12 months occurred in the Sydney metropolitan region.

"Male drivers are almost three times as likely as females to be killed while driving. Male drivers between 26 and 29 are at highest risk.

"Remember to plan your trip and prepare your vehicle and yourself before setting off on a holiday journey.

"The Transport Management Centre (TMC) provides up to date information on roadwork and driving conditions through their website livetraffic.rta.nsw.gov.au or 137 201."

Top Ten Tips to Safe Summer Driving

1. Seat belts save lives – always wear a seat belt and remind your passengers to do the same;
2. Remember to plan your journey - plan in advance of leaving to avoid delays or getting lost;
3. Ensure your car is serviced before setting off – this reduces your chance of a breakdown or accident;
4. Never drink and drive – before celebrating nominate a safe driver who will not be drinking alcohol;
5. Take plenty non-alcoholic drinks with you – dehydration can cause inattention by the driver;
6. Reduce driver distraction – such as by ensuring children are occupied with an activity or travel game;
7. Always follow the directions of emergency personnel – some areas of Sydney and surrounds can be affected by summer bushfires;
8. Check your car first aid kit contents – you never know when you'll need to use it
9. Take care when merging – always check behind you and wait until you have a clear space before merging, especially onto the shoulder; and,
10. Take rests – use the provided rest-stops and driver reviver centres to take a break when needed.

Media Contact: Peter Colacino (02) 9254 4926 or 0402 296 544