

# PARCEL PARTNER LTD VUNERABLE ROAD USER POLICY

14th January 2019

#### **VUNERABLE ROAD USER POLICY**

#### 1.Introduction:

Our vehicles share the roads with many other road users, some of who are at a far greater risk than others. Parcel Partner Ltd recognises that some of these road users may warrant special consideration and greater vigilance in order to protect their safety and wellbeing.

The Company aim to avoid all incidents involving other road users, particularly those who may be more vulnerable by adhering to the simple precautions outlined in this procedure.

#### 2.Guidance:

The Company has identified the significant risks from its operations involving its transport activities (including the safety of vulnerable road users) and has put in place procedures to reduce these risks. Because of the variable factors involved, no single measure is enough to completely ensure safety. However, by considering a wide-range of factors, e.g. driving conditions, driver training and safe vehicle issues, the Company has taken all reasonable steps to prevent a serious incident. A number of controls have been identified through the risk assessment process and these are routinely brought to the attention of the workforce. The Company expects these measures to be adhered to and will take appropriate action against those who fail to do so. From time to time, the risks and measures to reduce them with be monitored and reviewed to ensure maximum effectiveness.

#### 3.General:

#### 3.1 Take care of you:

The most important part of a moving vehicle is the driver. Get plenty of rest before getting behind the wheel. Eat well and stay fit. Remember, working hours violations are serious and can threaten your livelihood, your safety and the safety of *others*. Stay healthy and well rested, or don't drive.

#### 3.2 Always ensure that your vehicle is well maintained

All the vehicles in our fleet are regularly serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. In addition, drivers are required to inspect their vehicles before each journey. Drivers must identify safety defects and get them repaired before taking a vehicle on the highway. Side & rear under-run bars, must be fitted and maintained so that they are in an operational condition.

#### 3.3 Be aware of your vehicle's blind-spots:

Other drivers may not be aware of the size of your vehicle's blind spots. Be vigilant in watching out for other vehicles in this area. The blind spots represent the most hazardous areas around a vehicle where collisions are more likely to occur. One-third of all collisions between LGV's and cars take place in this area. Company vehicles fitted with 360-degree camera systems are to be fully functional at all times and maintained in accordance with the





manufacturers guidelines. Mirror's must be clean and adjusted correctly to suit individual drivers.

#### 3.4 Always keep your distance:

Always leave enough space between you and the vehicle in front of you. If you hit someone from behind, you are typically considered to be "at fault," regardless of the circumstances. LGVs require more stopping distances than other vehicles. Take advantage of your driving height, and anticipate braking situations.

#### 3.5 Fasten your seat belt:

Secure your seat belt on every journey. If you are in a collision, a seat belt can save your life and those around you. It will keep you in your seat and allow you to maintain control of your vehicle. Wearing a seat belt is still the single most effective thing all drivers can do to save lives and reduce injures on our roadways.

#### **3.5 Always drive defensively:**

Avoid aggressive driving. It is estimated that each year two-thirds of all traffic fatalities are caused by aggressive driving behavior. Keep your distance and maintain a safe speed.

# **3.6 Construction workers:**

Work zone crashes are more likely to happen during the day and almost one third of fatal crashes in work zones involved LGVs:

- Stay alert and watch out for highway construction workers.
- Take your time going through work zones and give yourself plenty of room.
- Obey all warning signs and speed restrictions.
- Take particular care in reduced lane widths.
- Watch out for obstructions in the highway, e.g. construction traffic, skips etc.

#### 3.7 Vulnerable Road Users:

#### 3.7.1 Pedestrians:

Always observe for pedestrians, in particular:

- If they step off the pavement into the road;
- When driving near bus and tram stops and passed parked cars; pedestrians may emerge suddenly into the road;
- When turning at road junctions; give way to pedestrians who are already crossing the road into which you are turning;
- Pay particular attention in busy pedestrian areas, e.g. shopping streets and quiet lanes etc;
- People with pushchairs and/or dogs;
- Be careful if the pavement is closed due to street repairs and pedestrians are directed to use the road;
- Be careful when approaching pedestrians on narrow rural roads without a footpath. Always slow down and be prepared to stop if necessary, giving them plenty of room as you drive past and do not cut-in too soon;
- Be careful when making turns or maneuvering and parking, particularly when reversing into side roads- and give way to pedestrians who may be crossing the road.





# 3.7.2 Children:

Always observe for children, in particular:

- As they may not be able to judge your speed and could step into the road in front of you.
- Around school zones reduce your speed accordingly; look out for young and inexperienced cyclists; observe the flashing amber school warning signs;
- Look out for school buses both at schools and other collection/dropping-off points as children may be getting on or off;
- Be prepared to act at school crossing points, particularly when the "Stop for Children" sign is evident;
- Around playgrounds and parks;
- Around stationary ice-cream vans.

# 3.7.3 Horse riders:

Always observe for horse riders, in particular:

- Be prepared for unpredictable behavior;
- Be prepared for the rider losing control;
- Do not rev your engine;
- Take account of horses reacting to discharging air-brakes;
- Give horses more room to account for the unexpected.

# 3.7.4 Cyclists, skateboarders, roller-bladers:

Always observe for cyclists etc, in particular:

- Consider your blind-spots;
- Be extra vigilant when making turns, maneuvers and reversing;
- Exercise caution if you need to cross a pavement or cycle track; for example, to reach or leave a driveway. Give way to cyclists etc on the pavement and respect the cycle lanes;
- Be extra vigilant in slow moving traffic where cyclists etc may be moving faster than you.

#### 3.7.5 Motorcycles:

Always observe for motorbikes and scooters in particular:

- Consider your blind-spots;
- Be extra vigilant when making turns, maneuvers and reversing;
- Be mindful that riders may have to change direction quickly to avoid raised iron work, pot-holes, wet road markings and oil spills in the road;
- Be extra vigilant in slow moving traffic where motorbikes and scooters may be moving faster than you.

#### 3.7.6 Elderly people and people with disabilities:

Always observe for elderly people and people with disabilities in particular:

- They may not be able to judge your speed and could step into the road in front of you. At 40 mph (64 km/h) your vehicle will probably kill any pedestrians it hits. At 20 mph (32 km/h) there is only a 1 in 20 chance of the pedestrian being killed, so reduce your speed
- Older pedestrians who may need more time to cross the road. Be patient and allow them to cross in their own time. Do not hurry them by revving your engine or edging forward;





- Powered wheelchairs and mobility scooters, watch out for any unpredictable behavior on the road or footpaths;
- Buses and vehicles with disabled access needs, especially when parking adjacent to such vehicles;
- People with disabilities. People with hearing impairments may not be aware of your vehicle approaching; those with walking difficulties require more time;
- Blind or partially sighted people, who may be carrying a white cane using a guide dog; they may not be able to see you approaching;
- Deaf-blind people who may be carrying a white cane with a red band or using a dog with a red and white harness; they may not see or hear instructions or signals.

# 3.7.7 Learner drivers:

Always observe for new and inexperienced drivers, in particular:

• They may not be experienced and skilled enough to react quickly and as expected.

Note: This list is not exhausted and will be amended accordingly where changes are identified and are required to be communicated.

