

Western Route Safety Hour Topic

Average Speed Cameras - Safe drive and stay alive!

2015



Welcome to your safety hour. This edition focusses on average speed cameras.

Average speed cameras are a common site in areas of road works. If you travel around our route in a vehicle you will notice average speed cameras in various locations, in particular on the A34 and the M4.

Did you know?

Average speed cameras take an average speed of your vehicle over a set distance, which could be as much as several miles.

Each camera records a date and time stamp. Then, using automatic number plate recognition (ANPR), the computer calculates the average speed between the cameras with photographic evidence.

Myth busters

Myth - If a car changes lane it cannot be detected

Fact - The system will detect all vehicles regardless of lane changes.

Myth – During darkness and bad weather the camera cannot detect number plates

Fact – Each camera unit has an infrared ANPR camera and an infrared illuminator, which enables number plates to be read, regardless of light or weather conditions.

Myth – the cameras can only detect one type of vehicle

Fact – The cameras are capable of detecting and enforcing speeds for all types of vehicles including those travelling above the speed limit for the gross weight of the vehicle.

What are the consequences?

Higher speeds mean that drivers have less time to identify and react to changes on the road. This can remove drivers safety margin and turns near misses into crashes.

Discussion points

Please discuss the following questions in your safety hour group:

1. What changes could you make to improve your driving?
2. What do you think the benefits are of using average speed cameras as opposed to traditional GATSO (standalone) cameras?
3. Have you had any experience of average speed cameras, how did you change your style of driving?

We can all make a difference

- Please agree in your group what you will do differently as a result of your safety hour discussion today...
 - ...As an individual employee?
 - ...As a team member?
 - ...As a team leader, supervisor or manager?
- How will you hold each other to account for what you have agreed to do?

Western Route is committed to ensuring every one of us goes home safely at the end of every day

For further information regarding Western Safety Hour including topics and a calendar of scheduled safety hours see our Share Point Site:

<http://oc.hiav.networkrail.co.uk/sites/whsh/Pages>