# Safe Texting, With FDIVoice Hands Free Voice Activated Technology

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Motor vehicle crashes are the No. 1 cause of death in the United States for 3- to 34-year-olds. Crashes are among the top three causes of death throughout a person's lifetime.3 They also are the No. 1 cause of work-related death.4 Annually, more U.S. soldiers are killed in crashes in privately-owned vehicles than all other Army ground accidents combined.

Each year since 1994, between 39,000 and 46,000 people have been killed in motor vehicle crashes.6 That's more than 650,000 lives lost during the past 15 years. It includes people inside and outside of vehicles, as well as motorcyclists, bicyclists and pedestrians who were struck by vehicles. There are activities people tend to think are riskier than driving, such as flying in an airplane, but consider this: The lives lost on U.S. roadways each year are equivalent to the lives that would be lost from a 100-passenger jet crashing every day of the year.

In addition to the thousands of fatalities, many more people suffer serious life-changing injuries in motor vehicle crashes. More than 2.2 million injuries resulted from vehicle crashes in 2008.

#### FDIVoice Hands Free

To reduce this toll, prevention must focus on the top factors associated with crashes. Driver distractions have joined alcohol and speeding as leading factors in fatal and serious injury crashes. The National Safety Council estimates 25 percent of all crashes in 2008 involved talking on cell phones – accounting for 1.4 million crashes and 645,000 injuries that year.

Cell phone use has grown dramatically over the past 15 years. In 1995, cell phone subscriptions covered only 13 percent of the U.S. population; by 2008, that had grown to 87 percent.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that at any point during the day, 11 percent of drivers are talking on cell phones. More than half of respondents to a AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety survey reported talking on cell phones while driving during the previous 30 days. Seventeen percent admitted they engaged in this behavior "often or very often." Because text messaging has grown dramatically – an almost 10,000-fold increase in 10 years – and because there is already near-public consensus that it's a serious driving safety risk, texting receives a great deal of attention. About 14 percent of people admitted to texting while driving in the past 30 days. Although texting is clearly a serious distraction, NSC data shows drivers talking on cell phones are involved in more crashes. More people are talking on cell phones while driving more often, and for greater lengths of time, than they are texting. Thus, in 2008, an estimated 200,000 crashes involved texting or e-mailing, versus 1.4 million crashes involving talking on cell phones.

During 2009, cell phone distractions while driving hit our nation's political and media agendas. Webster's Dictionary named "distracted driving" its Word of the Year.

## FDIVoice Hands Free

#### In 2009:

- More than 200 state bills were introduced to ban cell phone use texting and talking while driving. Laws passed were front-page news.
- The U.S. Department of Transportation convened a Distracted Driving Summit, which the Secretary of Transportation called the most important meeting in the Department of Transportation's history.
- President Barack Obama issued an Executive Order banning federal employees from texting while driving.
- A National Safety Council membership survey showed employers of all sizes, sectors and industries are implementing employee policies banning talking and texting while driving.
- Public opinion polls show a majority of the public support these efforts.

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### http://www.fdi.me

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FDI Voice Hands Free Service will have you in full compliance with driving laws in your state and have you arrive to your destination in one piece. I know you have seen the news reels and pictures of what happens when you text and drive.

--- End ---

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