



Introduction

The amount of time we spend driving for both business and pleasure is increasing year by year as a result of distributed business centres and a marked increase in traffic congestion. There is also an increasing number of people now working from home or travelling from place to place to carry out their work. Contemporary research indicates that back discomfort as a result of driving for more than 4 hours a day can be as much as 6 times greater than normal. From a position of health and safety at work where it is seen that cars have become effectively mobile offices, there is a clear duty of care placed on employers to ensure that the car is suitable for the individual. This is also true for work stations situated at home or for people using laptops and mobile communication devices.

Strategic Advice

Where the car is the workplace, then the employer also has a duty under PUWER 1998 (Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations) to select work equipment with particular regard to the working conditions and the risks to the health and safety of their staff. One obvious aspect in this consideration is ergonomic risk. There is considerable evidence indicating definite cost benefits with the application of good ergo-

nomics to vehicle design and selection and the subsequent reduction in sickness and absenteeism.

“When selecting equipment, employers should take account of ergonomic risks.”

Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) PUWER Regulation 4 (1) & (2)

The Hu-Tech Driving Assessment

The Hu-Tech Assessment delivers a complete and detailed review of an individual’s car and driver. The vehicle or mobile office is assessed for its compatibility with the specific anthropometric measurements, postural analysis and work tasks requirements of the individual.

Specific solutions are recommended with assigned priorities and the individual is shown how to set up the car to best effect.



Why a Driving Assessment?

- User centred
- Early detection of chronic problems
- Integrates with Safety Management and Occupational Health Systems
- Faster Return to Work

Benefits

- Advice on car set-up and working posture for drivers
- Guidance on work organisation and safe practices
- Information on ergonomic suitability and choice of car

For information visit www.hu-tech.co.uk or email: info@hu-tech.co.uk

Hu-Tech Ergonomics

Guildford

81 Addison Road
Guildford, GU1 3QE UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1483 457441
Fax: +44 (0) 1483 853382

Northampton

Saxon Court, 29 Marefair
Northampton, NN1 1SR. UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1604 233428
Fax: +44 (0)1604 604 967

Scotland

Alloa Business Centre
Whins Road, Alloa
Scotland FK10 3SA
Tel: +44 (0) 125 972 6631
Fax: +44 (0) 125 972 6620