



Blinking Hell! Make Hazard Lights History

The Campaign to stop the use of Hazard Lights on Event Sites

HAZOFF is a campaign to stop the use of vehicle hazard lights on event sites. For years drivers have been told to turn their hazard lights on when entering event sites which means that they cannot indicate which way they intend to turn when driving on site. Hazard lights can also look like a turn signal if only one light can be seen which can lead to confusion or worse. And they are often left on when a vehicle leaves the site. "At hundreds of sites hazard lights flash pointlessly as vehicles approach traffic marshals who then have to ask the driver which way they want to turn." says event safety advisor, Paul 'PJ' Jones. "Where there are no traffic marshals this can create a dangerous free for all. Even when they are not asked to turn their hazards on, many drivers do it out of habit."

The use of hazard lights on moving vehicles is contrary to the guidance in the Highway Code and the requirements of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989. Over the last ten years sporadic and uncoordinated attempts have been made to stop this practise. Several companies and event organisers have incorporated it in their formal methods, but not enough to make a significant difference. HAZOFF aims to put an end to this practise by enlisting the support of event industry professionals to include HAZOFF in their event planning and actively promoting it in 2013.

HAZOFF already has the backing of the Production Services Association (PSA) and a number of leading event production, safety and security companies including Live Nation, Festival Republic, The Event Safety Shop Capita Symonds, Specialized Security, AP Security and Stuart Leisure Security as well as many event suppliers and individuals working in the industry who have signed up on the web site at www.hazardsoff.org.uk.

The immediate aim is to raise awareness and encourage event industry organisations to include the HAZOFF message in their safety management plans. Especially important is the security industry. As the first contact many drivers have with an event, security staff are in an ideal position to spread the word. Security companies will be asked to include the HAZOFF message in their training programmes and at on-site briefings to all staff. The longer term objective is to change official guidance, change event organisers' formal methods and eventually change the mind set of individuals. To this end the campaign is gathering evidence of a consensus among event professionals that hazard lights on site are counterproductive and can be dangerous.

The HAZOFF campaign is looking for a sponsor to help promote the campaign. "We are looking for a modest sponsorship to cover the costs of running the web site and to produce posters and stickers to display at site entrances and in vehicles." says PJ, "The key is getting the message to event organisers and the security industry over the winter. It would be an advantage to have some publicity material ready to go when the

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season starts next spring.” Meanwhile there are a number of signs and stickers which can be downloaded from the campaign’s website to be displayed around event sites.

It only takes a minute to show your support. Event professionals from all areas of the industry are invited to visit the **HAZOFF** web site (www.hazardsoff.org.uk) and sign up to the campaign. Support is sought from everyone involved in event management including promoters, suppliers of technical equipment and event services, freelancers, security and crewing companies, local authorities and emergency services. Together, we can make hazard lights history.

Ends. (630 words)

Editors:

For more information visit the [Information page](http://www.hazardsoff.org.uk/information.html) (<http://www.hazardsoff.org.uk/information.html>).

For HAZ OFF campaign logos visit the [Posters page](http://www.hazardsoff.org.uk/posters.html) (<http://www.hazardsoff.org.uk/posters.html>)

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