

## Fact sheet – preventing diesel spills

Diesel on the road can be as slippery as black ice. It's dangerous for all road users, but motorcyclists are particularly at risk. This fact sheet explains some simple steps your drivers can take to help save lives.

### Fuel for thought - diesel expands when it's warm

It's tempting to overfill the tank when you're faced with a long journey. But, if you don't leave space for the fuel to expand as it heats up, it could spill onto the road and cause an accident.

### If the cap fits...

Excess diesel can escape around the side of the filler cap. Make sure yours is securely fastened after re-filling and it's not damaged.

### Keep on checking

Vehicles will fail their annual tests if they leak fuel, are missing filler caps or have caps that are not sealed properly. Add a regular diesel inspection to your daily list of checks. Look for any problems with the filler neck and make sure that the seals around the cap are not worn.

### It pays to kill spills

You can receive a £5000 fine, along with six points on your licence, if you're found to be responsible for a diesel spill. You may also be liable for the costs of cleaning up the spill and repairing the road surface.

If you see a diesel spill and believe you are able to contain it yourself, stop your vehicle safely and limit the area of spread with a prevention kit, if your vehicle carries one.

If the spill is beyond your own control, call 999 and describe the size and location of the spill. Emphasise that you consider it a danger to motorcyclists and other road users. You should also notify your company to make sure other vehicles can avoid the area, if necessary.