



Feb. 1, 2010

Sharp Propane Safety Standards Update *Leading the Industry in Safety and Service*

The news of bans on texting behind the wheel is everywhere. Nineteen states have outlawed texting behind the wheel and President Obama has set forth a mandate against government workers and truckers texting while driving. The State of Texas forbids texting by drivers younger than 18, by school bus drivers and by motorists in a school zone or who are transporting a child. And today, the City of Austin begins enforcement of the no texting while driving ordinance, which went into effect on January 1, 2010.

As part of our safety standards, Sharp Propane was way ahead of this trend by addressing this issue back in October of 2008, when we instituted a policy for all personnel that not only addresses texting but mobile devices as a whole. Our policy states that drivers of company vehicles may not utilize mobile devices while operating the vehicle. For Sharp Propane, safety of our customers and employees is at the core of our company. As such, we are always striving to maintain the highest of safety standards.

"My 35 years in the propane industry have taught me to always be on the lookout for safety and service standard improvements. I anticipated the need for limiting mobile device usage by our drivers back in 2008 and immediately instituted Sharp's policy of prohibiting drivers from responding to or initiating cell phone calls/messages while driving," said Dennis Dukes, Director of Safety.

"As The Propane Professionals, our mission at Sharp is to lead the industry in safety and service, and I'm proud to say this is an excellent example of Sharp setting the standard," said Steve McKay, CEO.

About Sharp Propane

Sharp Propane is a leading service provider of residential and commercial propane systems providing customers a green, safe and reliable energy source for the way they live and work. The Propane Professionals™ at Sharp are committed to being a customer-first company that is setting the standards for safety and service in the industry.

Sharp Propane, founded in 1949 in Smithville, Texas, is one of the largest propane dealers in the United States and the largest independent retailer in Texas. Sharp Propane is headquartered in Bastrop, Texas with operations also in Austin, Bryan, Fort Worth and La Grange.

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