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August 16, 2006

Attention: Forest Companies, Ministry of Forests and Silviculture Contractors

**Re: Silviculture Crew Transport Vehicles**

This memo is for your information regarding a concern that has been raised about the suitability of vehicles used for transporting silviculture crews. In some cases, contractors may be using 12-15 passenger vans to transport crew and equipment where the rated capacity of the van may be exceeded. Load carrying attachments (e.g. roof racks) may be mounted on the vans that are not approved by the manufacturer and overload situations could cause the vehicles to become unstable on forest roads. In addition, there are specific licensing requirements for drivers of 2 axle vehicles with 10 or more occupants.

We are asking for your assistance to determine the types of crew transportation vehicles being used by silviculture contractors on your forest lands and to make them aware about the potential hazards associated with operating 12-15 passenger vans in a potentially overload situation.

Employers are advised to refer to Part 17 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (Transportation of Workers) to ensure compliance with these regulations and to review Part 16 which outlines the requirements for Mobile Equipment.

Occupational Safety Officers will also be evaluating crew transport vehicles during their inspections of silviculture operations.

Thank you from **WorkSafeBC**

For additional information contact the WorkSafeBC office nearest you;

<b>Abbotsford -</b>	<b>604-276-3100 or 1-800-292-2219</b>
<b>Courtney -</b>	<b>250-334-8765 or 1800-663-7921</b>
<b>Fort St John -</b>	<b>250-785-8976 or 1-800-663-4630</b>
<b>Kamloops -</b>	<b>250-371-6003 or 1-800-663-3935</b>
<b>Kelowna -</b>	<b>250-717-4313 or 1-888-922-4466</b>
<b>Nanaimo -</b>	<b>250-751-8046 or 1-800-663-7382</b>
<b>Nelson -</b>	<b>250-352-2824 or 1-800-663-4962</b>
<b>Prince George -</b>	<b>604-561-3710 or 1-800-663-6623</b>
<b>Terrace -</b>	<b>250-615-6605 or 1-800-663-3871</b>

