

Weather can be very dangerous at times, especially for delivery drivers. Fog creates dangerous driving conditions and has been the cause of a high number of accidents and fatalities.

Fog is a cloud form at the surface of the earth made of tiny water droplets suspended in the air. The greatest problem with fog is visibility. Heavy fog is defined as visibility below one-quarter of a mile. A Dense Fog Advisory means that dense fog has reduced visibility to  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile or less within the advisory area.

## DRIVING SAFETY

If you must drive in fog, follow these safety tips:

- Slow down and do not drive faster than your vision allows; allow extra time to reach your destination.
- Be cautious, fog can become thicker without warning and without being noticed until it is too late to react.
- Decrease your following distance to ensure enough reaction time and stopping distance.
- Turn on all your lights-including your hazard lights. Use low beam headlights and fog lights. Do not use high beams. Using high beam lights causes glare, making it more difficult to see what is ahead on the road.
- Turn on your 4-way flashers to give vehicles approaching from behind a better opportunity to see and notice your vehicle.
- Use windshield wipers and defroster as necessary to maximize visibility. Be ready for emergency stops by other vehicles. Turn off your cruise control so you are in control of your vehicle.
- Use the right edge of the road or roadside reflectors as a guide.
- Do not change lanes or pass vehicles, unless necessary.
- Remember, other drivers have limited sight distance and that fogs make the road wet.
- Signal early, and when you use your brakes, do not stomp on them.
- Watch out for slow-moving and parked vehicles.
- If you cannot see, pull off the road, turn on your hazard flashers immediately

## OUTSIDE OF YOUR DELIVERY VEHICLE

Also, take extra precautions when you stop your vehicle to deliver a package.

- Ensure that your vehicle is safely pulled off the road, away from traffic lanes with hazard flashers on.
- Wear high visibility clothing such as vests, armbands or hats that have reflective stripes.
- Be sure to look before you exit your driver seat onto the roadway/driveway. You may see an approaching vehicle, but they may not see you. Be especially vigilant when you are aware of blind spots on the road and you must work outside of the truck.