

State of Florida

Vehicle Fluid Spill Mitigation

Guidelines for the
**Mitigation of Accidental Discharge
of Motor Vehicle Fluids
(Non-Cargo)**



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***For the Traffic Incident Management Teams
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What is a *non-cargo* vehicle fluid?

- How many can you identify ?
- Ever been frustrated with the conflicting interpretations of proper action and the resulting long delays ?

Motor Vehicle Fluids

- Most common and problematic non-cargo fluid spill ?
- **Ruptured or leaking saddle tanks**
 - Jack knife
 - Roll over
 - TT vs fixed object
 - Truck vs car



Common Sense Handling of Fluid Spills at Traffic Incidents

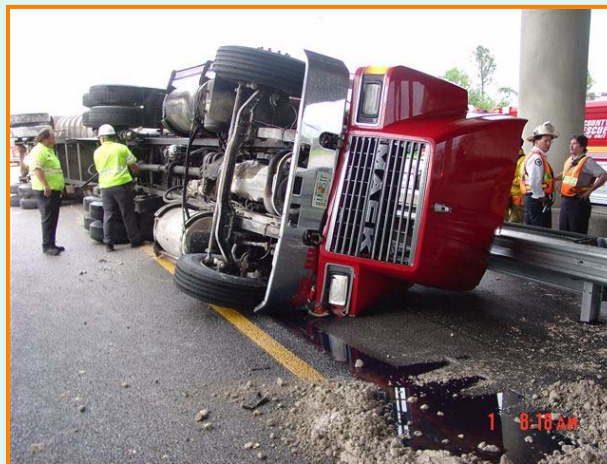
- ❑ Confusion and hesitation limit containment, spill spreads across lanes and then to the roadside environment
- ❑ Previous practice of in-action by early responders hinders Quick Clearance and damages road surface
- ❑ “I don’t want to be held liable for any clean-up cost”
- ❑ “If I don’t touch it I won’t be responsible for it”
- ❑ Too many five hour plus roadway closures

Key words non-cargo

The Guidelines:

Clearly state that spilled motor vehicle fluids are **NOT** HAZMAT incidents

- ❑ Meet FL regulatory requirements
- ❑ Were jointly developed
- ❑ Reduces closure time and congestion
- ❑ Limit secondary crashes
- ❑ Reduce incident responders' exposure to traffic



The Guidelines state:

Who can take action:

- On-scene responders
Who are they?
- How about the Driver of vehicle?



What can be used:

- Oil dry
 - Sand
 - Kitty litter
 - Peat moss
 - Pads and pillow
 - Dry Portland cement
- Use dirt if needed!**

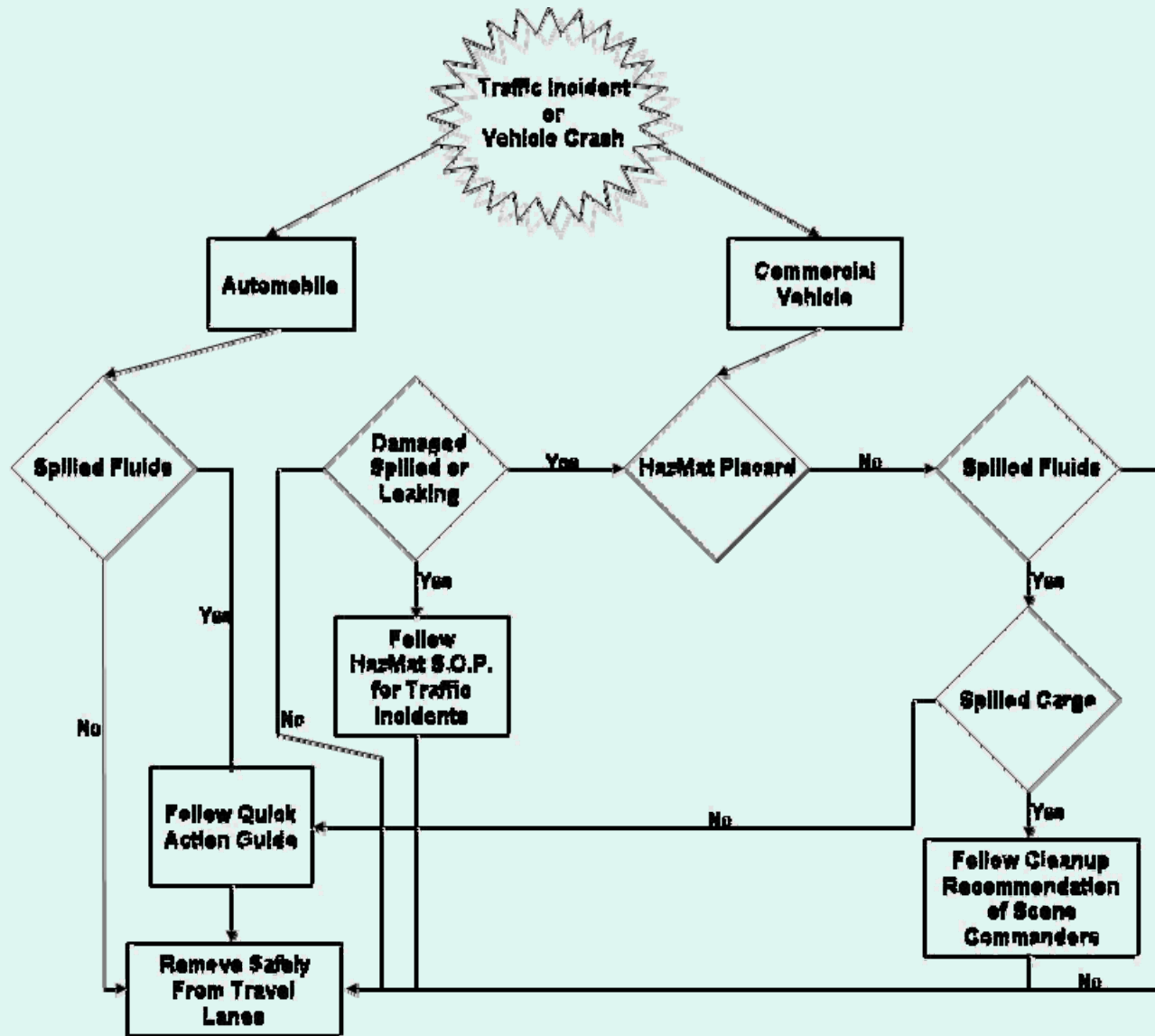


In the Guidelines, Incident Responders are:

- ❑ Encouraged to act in the “Interest of Safety” limit spill area
- ❑ Told that by taking action they accept no liability for spilling additional fluids or disposal cost of any clean-up material
- ❑ Urged to open travel lanes in a crucial manner (Responsible Party remains liable)



Florida's Vehicle fluid spills



Quick Action Guide

- ☑ Stop leaking material at the source
- ☑ Contain and limit spill from spreading
- ☑ Apply available absorbents
- ☑ Sweep material off travel lanes
- ☑ Second application if necessary
- ☑ Identify spill as a vehicle fluid
- ☑ Gradually restore traffic flow
- ☑ ID RP and mark location of material
- ☑ Assure proper notification made

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