



Even the shortest of messages have proven costly for teens

Texting Laws in Connecticut

The Connecticut state law prohibits use of mobile phones or text messaging while operating a motor vehicle with no exceptions. The law gets stricter with newly licensed drivers aged 16-17. Teenagers cannot operate a mobile phone or electronic device at all, even if it is through Bluetooth. Only when these drivers reach age 18 can they use hands free calling. A first offense of this will most likely cost a \$100 ticket; 30-day license suspension; and a \$175 license restoration fee.

Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell signed legislation strengthening the laws on cell phone use while driving on June 3rd. Governor Rell was reported to say on the matter, "They see it in terms of avoidable accidents. They see it in terms of unnecessary injuries. And sometimes, worst of all, they see it in terms of a fatality – a death that never needed to happen."

The new laws will emphasize the need to reduce distraction behind the wheel by stating that even holding a cell phone in the proximity of one's head is considered engaging in a call, and subject to a fine. In addition there will no longer be any leniency, as all warnings will be forgone by police officers. Sergeant Marron of the Darien Police Department noted that although it is up to the police officer's discretion, amnesty will be rare: if caught texting the driver will most likely receive a

Tech Fighting Texting

Teens becoming aware of prominent dangers of phone usage while driving

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OMG jst got pulled ovr by sum stupid cop fml

Omg!!!! no way. :-o wht hpnd?

I was txtng Jason whn he pulled me ovr!! Ugh 100dlr ticket! My prnts r guna flip!

OmG! what r u doing now??!?

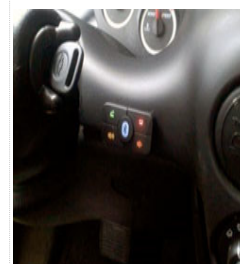
Driving

Honestly, it is probable that most of you have been guilty of using a cell phone while driving. Additionally, most of you probably know it is dangerous while you are doing it. Yet, proceed to do so. Today cell phones have become such a large part of our lives that it is almost impossible to think of leaving home without one.

A company called "Got2bwireless." has come to disperse the texting storm with the development of a product to fight automotive texting with technology. This device is a system based on Bluetooth 2.1 connectivity that will connect to most mobile phones and not only act as a hands-free calling solution in vehicles, but also allow the operator to send text messages and email orally, and listen to SMS and email messages read aloud. The device has three main components that include a microphone, a Bluetooth receiver and chip, and a user control interface.



Contents of the device for oral text messages



and offers the Got2bwireless solution for \$249 installed (excluding tax and/or applicable discounts). The device is connected to the front left stereo speaker next to the driver. It can be wired to mute the stereo when the device is active in a phone call or text message.

The kit includes a built in amp that will power the speaker when connected so it is minimally invasive to the factory stereo system wiring. The control interface is surface mounted on the dash in a location easily accessible, at the preference of the driver.

The system can be paired to four different phones and can access contact information and exhibit audible Caller I.D. It is compatible with all cellular handsets with Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR with hands free and handset profiles. Calling features include voice dialing from contacts, numerical voice dialing, redial, hang-up, pick-up, and volume control.

The synchronization of the driver's personal contacts is achieved by connecting to Got2bwireless online servers through a separate computer. Each device will allow four users and each of which will be able to set up contacts and email.

When an email or text message is sent, the device will actually connect to a server via a local number (Closest number to Darien is in Stamford). The automated system will then translate the voice to text and send it to the specified contact. The process is simple, quick, and efficient. When emails are read aloud the server will access the email account, provided by, and set up by the user, and translate the text to words. All of this is accomplished by a well-engineered voice recognition system.

The voice recognition does not require training, which can be good and bad at the same time. Traditionally, when the technology first came out, the user was required to 'train' his voice to the system. This would allow the computer to become accustomed to the sound, dialect, and accent of the users' voice --with time accuracy would be high. Typically this involved sessions of repeating phrases to the system, which could be long-winded and quite tedious. Newer technology eliminates the need for voice training and is typically quite accurate.

The problem, however, is that if the driver has a heavy accent or dialect, the system may not be able to decipher the voice accurately with little space for improvement.

Overall however, Got2bwireless seems to have got it down. The texting problem is outstanding. While it began as a movement among the young teenage generation, today everyone is texting...everywhere. With comfortable keyboards, most experienced texters can thumb-down a few sentences in only a few seconds making it incredibly easy to send a message wherever and whenever someone is.

Sadly, this extends to behind the wheel of a moving vehicle. Cell phone use behind the driver's seat has previously been legally addressed by individual states, and now the attention needs to be turned towards texting.

The risks of texting are not subtle. Distraction is highest when texting because one must focus on the message they are trying to say, type the actual words, and look away from the road for an extended period of time. Most texters cannot even text while maintaining a single conversation, let alone operate a motor vehicle at speed. With newly licensed drivers the effects are magnified.

There are numerous factors distracting to new drivers that impair their ability to drive safely, adding one more distraction is just a recipe for disaster. Driver negligence or distraction is one of the leading causes of accidents on the road today and the consequences can far exceed petty fender benders.

The Bluetooth solution to text messaging, mounted inside a vehicle

ticket.

The laws are the laws, and although no one likes getting a ticket they are necessary to the safety of public highways. Texting is one of the most dangerous and irresponsible things a driver can do, threatening his or her own life and the lives of others.

Got2bwireless solutions are the first steps of fighting texting with technology, forcing this technological revolution to take its own medicine. Hands free texting will not eliminate the risk of distracted driving altogether, but it will cut the number of cell phone related accidents on the road, and ultimately save lives... not to mention tickets. (if you are over 18)

The Growth of Texting and Dangers While Driving

The availability of cell phones has skyrocketed in the last seven years or so, allowing virtually anyone to get one. Age, price, and credit are no longer factors that control the distribution of cell phones in this era; family plans promote cell phone lines for children and prepaid devices allow anyone to pick up a handset at minimal cost. It is simple: we cannot avoid them.

As the growth of mobile devices has jumped the newest leap has been in texting. SMS or Short (160 character maximum)

Message Services has gained the most substantial popularity since the instant messaging and email craze during the late 1990's. The ability to communicate with short, instant messages is incredibly useful, efficient, entertaining, and, more importantly, impersonal for most people.

For the most genuine administration of this article, Neirad was adamant about conducting a study. We took a sample of 12 students of varying texting abilities, consisting of seniors, juniors, and sophomores and asked them to text the same phrase on their phone with their right hand (the left is supposed to be on the steering wheel).

Each student was timed as they texted "I'm on my way over now," a phrase very applicable to someone driving. The data showed an average time of 10.15 seconds with a median of 9.43 seconds. Most teenage drivers will admit to going at least 10mph over the speed limit during average driving. Consider the post road for example, with a 35mph speed limit. So at 45mph, you are moving 66 feet per second.

Multiply that by the average time, 10.15 seconds, and by letting your friend know you are on your way now, you will be traveling 670 feet, or just over 1/8th of a mile, blindly.

For example, a 53-year-old father was hit from behind by a 19-year-old woman who was texting while driving in Brooklyn in September. The man was on a scooter when he was clipped from behind, a blow sending him flying into concrete. The man is in a coma in critical condition.

This story is tragic but should hold no surprise, similar accidents happen every day and the usual culprit is cell phone use. Lawmakers are beginning to take a more serious approach to cracking down on distracted driving.

If you or anyone you know is interested in Got2bwireless hands free Bluetooth solutions, stop by or give a call to [Premiere Auto Sport in Darien](#). While I was there checking out the product, I happened to see former Hot in the Lot [Dylan Torey's blacked out Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon](#) there, awaiting repair. Dylan was rear-ended by woman on the highway in September... she was texting.

From an economic standpoint, two main things have led to the herd for the expansion of SMS messaging: decreased prices of cellular service, and innovation of handheld devices entering the market. As lower prices brought more and more people sanctioned with cell phones, manufacturers began to create phones that improved utility of SMS messages: keyboards. This technology has provided the mechanism for a world dominated by text messages, which consequently grows more ominous each day.

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