



Proforma Safety International

Proforma Safety Has Eyes that "See" Around Every Blind Spot

Looking for the latest and best technology to ensure transport safety? In this interview, [Mike Arnold](#), President of Proforma Safety, tells you about Proforma's safety escort services and the [Safety Vision](#) technologies they use to ensure safe transport.



Safety Vision has also published [a post](#) on its blog, [a slideshow](#) and [still shots](#) of the equipment installed on the [Proforma escort vehicle](#).

What are the risks inherent in escorting oversized loads?

Mike: Oversized and wide permitted loads decrease the amount of lane space on the road and may present height and length safety hazards not normally present in every day traffic. Unsuspecting vehicle drivers need advanced warning that it may not be safe to pass these loads, or that frequent stops will have to be made to ease the load under power lines or around overhanging trees or signs.

Proforma's responsibility as the Safety Escort is to prevent these unsuspecting drivers from getting in harms way and keep them clear of the load and its unpredictable movements. Proforma also provides traffic blocks during lane changes, turns and stops. Our goal is to ensure the safety of all drivers sharing the highway with these oversized loads.

How many escorts have you successfully completed?

Mike: We've completed 382 Safety Escorts since 2002 without a single incident, accident, or the carried load being lost, damaged by impact, or struck by an object.

What kinds of equipment and materials do you escort?

Mike: Proforma Safety generally escorts loads being used in the oil and gas industry such as large 500-ton well control equipment that is used on the ocean floor to produce oil and gas, or extremely long joints of pipe know as risers used in drilling and production sub-sea wells.

We also escort large reels of coiled tubing, hazardous material in containers that would be a safety hazard to the public if involved in an accident. Proforma Safety is also being considered to escort wind towers and blades into the Midwest United States to help improve energy conservation.

We can successfully escort anything that is moved over any roadway where public safety is a concern and the equipment owner or shipper wants to assure their load arrives undamaged, intact and on time.

What kinds of safety camera equipment helps you "see" around these tremendous loads?

Mike: We have [side and rear-mounted cameras](#) that give our driver a full 360 degree view around the truck, so any traffic coming up from behind, or the left or right sides, can be fully monitored and observed at all times. Blind spots are virtually eliminated given the driver a clear view of traffic conditions. Knowing what the traffic is doing behind



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you -- and in the lanes beside you -- helps the escort driver control unsuspecting drivers from getting between the load, being caught in wide turns by the carrier, or getting cut off when attempting to pass.

What about at night?

Mike: Our escort vehicle is equipped with a [forward-facing infrared FLIR camera](#) that allows the driver to see three to four times further down the road at night than is normally possible with headlights.

This camera equipment sounds like it would be great even when you're not escorting oversized loads.

Mike: Yes. The safety advantage of this system is well worth the investment. I'd recommend it be installed on all new vehicles. Animals, pedestrians, roadway objects, stalled vehicles, lost loads, pot holes etc. are seen long before contact would be made.

Besides, it's great for just getting to and from home in everyday Houston traffic. What you CAN'T see while driving is what causes accidents.