

# Did You Know...



## FLEET HEAT

In the confined space of a vehicle, temperatures can climb so rapidly that they overwhelm a person's ability to regulate his or her internal temperature. In a closed environment, the body can go into shock quickly, and circulation to vital organs can fail.

The temperature inside vehicles can rise by 19° on average in just 10 minutes. After an hour, the temperature can rise to about 43° hotter than the temperature outside. The temperature inside vehicles generally peak at about 45-50 degrees hotter than the temperature outdoors.

Sitting in a closed vehicle for 10 minutes can cause the body's core temperature to climb. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) report that very high body temperatures can cause damage to the brain and other vital organs, as well as heat stroke or death. For individuals with chronic disease, weakened immune systems, the elderly or the very young (and pets), high temperatures coupled with heat sensitive immune systems can rapidly become dangerous.

Leaving a window slightly open, or "cracked", does very little to prevent the inside of a vehicle from becoming dangerously hot.

No matter the type of fleet, remember that you are your most precious cargo. These tips will help you stay safe in days of searing heat:

- **Limit the amount of time spent inside a hot car, even with a slightly open window.**
- **Park in the shade when possible.** Interior air temperatures in vehicles can reach above 63°C (145°F) in the hot summer sun. Surfaces exposed to direct sunlight can be even hotter, up to and exceeding 90 °C (195°F).
- **Keep your vehicle running well by committing to regular service visits and safety checks to ensure proper function throughout the season.**

