



**HAAS ALERT**



**samsara**

# Protecting Responders with Samsara & Safety Cloud

When the Connecticut DOT sought to add digital alerting protection to the fleet, an integration with Samsara offered a seamless activation.

CASE STUDY | AUGUST 2022





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August 2022

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**Agency Name:** ConnDOT

**Location:** Connecticut

**Fleet Type:** DOT

**Fleet Size:** 15

**Goal:** Reduce Collisions

## Safety Cloud - A Smarter Way To Alert

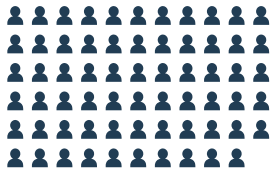
The Connecticut Department of Transportation is responsible for over 3,700 miles of road in the state including state routes, state roads, and the National Highway System. The department operates a fleet of 15 service trucks that patrol the roadway every day, keeping roadways clear and drivers safe. Flat tires, collisions, and disabled vehicles are just some of the issues the department helps to address on a daily basis.

Working on the road is a dangerous job, and safety is the number one priority for the department. Limited visibility and impaired or distracted drivers are just some of the risks that can increase the chances of collisions and struck-by incidents on the highway. The potential for these deadly incidents is always on the minds of patrol drivers.

“Collisions are a constant concern for us,” says Aidan Neely, a Planner for the Connecticut Department of Transportation. “It is an intense and hazardous atmosphere anytime you’re on the highway. When you go out on the roads, you want to be as safe as possible knowing the level of risk you are exposed to.”

## A Concern for Safety

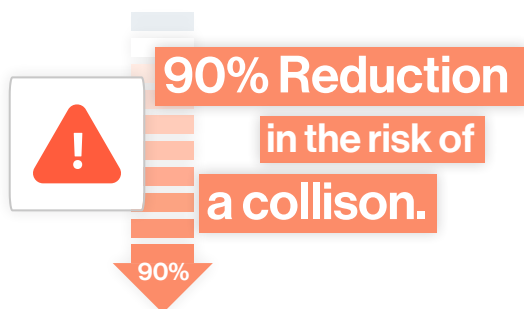
The fleet’s concern about danger on the roads is not without reason. Hundreds of thousands of collisions occur every year involving road workers including work zone operators, emergency responders, and roadside assistance fleets. These collisions are costly and increasingly deadly. Since 2017, struck-by deaths in the United States have been on the rise; in 2021, 65 road workers were struck and killed on the road, setting a new annual record.



**65 Road Workers**  
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on the road in 2021.

Determined to address this challenge, the Connecticut DOT knew that they had to take action in order to protect their workers. That's when department planners began exploring new tools for preventing collisions and began learning more about digital alerting, a collision prevention technology. Digital alerting reduces the risk of collision by giving motorists and vehicles advanced warning of alerting hazards on the road, such as roadside assistance and emergency vehicles. The alerts, which are delivered over everyday cellular networks to popular navigation applications and vehicle dashboards, have been shown to lower the risk of a collision by up to 90% and reduce hard-braking near roadside incidents by 80%. Connecticut DOT leaders decided to explore the technology in the form of HAAS Alert's platform, Safety Cloud®.

The presence of digital alerts result in a



"We heard about Safety Cloud and HAAS Alert through some blog posts and other fleets using it, and the results looked promising," says Aidan Neely. "Digital alerting is clearly an increasingly valuable tool for our industry, and Safety Cloud's track record with similar agencies validated its potential for our fleet."

### HAAS Alert and Samsara

When dealing with the safety of an entire fleet, costs are often the first concern. New hardware, maintenance requirements, and compatibility factors can quickly increase the overall cost of adopting a new technology. For HAAS Alert, this turned out to not be a problem.

The Connecticut DOT had already deployed a Samsara integration into their road fleet, which posed an opportunity for Safety Cloud. Safety Cloud offers an activation for Samsara users to activate Safety Cloud on their vehicles without any additional hardware. This makes the setup process easy and affordable.

"Samsara and HAAS Alert have a partnership where if a fleet has all the capabilities of Samsara already installed, getting into Safety Cloud is a breeze," says Cory Hohns, CEO at HAAS Alert. "No additional hardware is required for activation through Samsara and customers still receive all the benefits of Safety Cloud."



If this integration was not what they wanted and they were more keen on having Safety Cloud directly through HAAS Alert, that option was available at a very affordable price as well. Either way they went, HAAS Alert Safety Cloud was affordable for as little as \$1 a day.

Before making a decision, Connecticut DOT wanted to see if there was any difference in response times between the Samsara activation and Safety Cloud directly through HAAS Alert devices. To do this, the department worked with a consultant to compare response times between Samsara-equipped vehicles and on-board HAAS Alert devices.

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“At the end of the pilot we found out that the response times were mirror images of one another,” says Aidan Neely. “It was amazing to see that we would not be sacrificing any type of performance by activating Safety Cloud through Samsara.”

Once the results came back and Connecticut DOT was happy to see the Samsara integration, they activated the service for their fleet of vehicles. With no additional hardware required, they were able to protect their workers immediately.

### Redefining Safety

Connecticut DOT has been fully deployed on Safety Cloud through Samsara since November 2021. The department is continuing to send out advance alerts to drivers and they are starting to see more cars moving over on the roads.

Safety has improved for the department with very little organizational input or effort. By simply activating Safety Cloud through Samsara, Connecticut DOT accessed all the features of Safety Cloud in a quick, easy and cost effective way. Now their workers are benefiting from an added layer of protection.

“I still cannot believe just how easy it was to connect everything” says Aidan Neely. “Safety Cloud will continue to be a great tool in the toolbox for us, and we could not recommend the service more to other workers and crews in the field.”

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