

GLOBAL SAFETY ALERT

CONTRACTOR FATALLY INJURED AFTER JUMPING FROM TRUCK

INCIDENT DETAILS

A contractor was transporting 14 tons of bagged cement when he suspected the brakes on his truck were failing. He panicked and asked his companion to jump clear from the truck and moments later the driver also jumped out. As the driver fell onto the road, he sustained fatal injuries. The companion was not seriously injured.



Truck position after leaving the road without a driver

KEY FINDINGS

- The investigation identified that the truck could have been stopped safely if the driver had remained in the truck. The investigation also confirmed that despite some wear on the brakes, the driver should have been able to maneuver and stop the truck safely.
- The driver may have panicked because he had been involved in a previous incident with a braking problem with another truck.
- The driver had some known personal worries that may have contributed to some loss of focus
- The driver's companion was his 11-year-old son, who was not allowed to travel with him. The investigation found this was not the first time he had taken his son on a trip, and he had already received disciplinary action from his employer for that. Although this was not known by CEMEX representatives.
- The truck was found in a higher gear position which indicated the driver did not attempt to use the gears to slow down the truck.

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MANAGERS – KEY POINTS TO CHECK

- All drivers have been trained and are aware of the significant risk involved in trying to jump clear of a moving vehicle and that it is usually much safer to remain in the vehicle with the seat belt fastened.
- All drivers, including contractors have received defensive driving training and their performance is monitored.
- Training courses and safety talks include the importance of not taking unauthorized companions on board with drivers.
- Contractor approval processes include requests about previous disciplinary actions that may be relevant for safe driving requirements.
- Consideration is given to known personal circumstances and any previous incident experiences that may require appropriate personal support to help ensure safe working practices are maintained.

ALL PERSONNEL – ACTION TO TAKE

- Follow the provided training. It's usually safer to stay in the vehicle with the seat belt fastened. People who jump clear with the vehicle in motion are often seriously injured.
- Always adjust your speed to the road layout and on hills, always slow down and use lower gears to help slow your vehicle.
- Never take unauthorized companions with you, don't put yourself and others at risk.
- Talk to your supervisor if you are facing personal difficulties that may create a loss of focus at work.



Seatbelts Save Lives



Fit & Alert



Safety Checks



Remember