# SAFETY ALERT

## HIPO-CEMENT TRANSPORT-FLATBED TRUCK

#### **DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT**

A contracted flatbed truck that was transporting cement bags to a customer site unexpectedly encountered a traffic jam, but the driver failed to reduce speed in time and, to avoid a collision, made a sharp turn. This maneuver led to an impact with the last vehicle in a line of stationary traffic. Due to the sudden swerve, two of the four pallets stacked on the truck fell onto another vehicle. At the time of the incident, the truck driver was in a conversation using the vehicle's integrated speaker system. The incident involved three individuals traveling in the affected vehicles, one of whom sustained a contusion and an arm injury. The truck driver was unharmed.

### **KEY FINDINGS**

- The contractor driver has more than 10 years of experience at Cemex, had received the safety induction and was approved as a contractor.
- The truck was stowed correctly and the pallets that were mounted were secured with slings.
- ✓ The driver scored medium-high in his driving assessment (Movertis).
- Police conducted alcohol and drug tests on the driver, which came back negative.
- The truck was traveling at a speed of 66 km/hour in a section where the maximum speed is 90 km/hour.
- The driver received a professional call that lasted approx. 7 minutes, a colleague asking for directions to a new delivery destination.
- The driver was distracted due to the call and did not detect that he was approaching a traffic jam, which did not give him time to brake.
- The driver lost four points on his driving licence and received a fine for not respecting the safety distance from the vehicle in front.
- The driver had received a previous warning during a VFL for driving at an inappropriate speed inside the plant.

#### HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED

- Being fully concentrated on the road and not being distracted
- Not using mobile phone while driving, only allowing to attend to urgent and short-term calls. The rest will be attended to when the vehicle is stopped.
- Plan the route to your destination before making any trip.

#### **KEY REVIEW POINTS**

- Drivers should avoid taking long calls while driving, even when using mobile integrated systems. If the call is not urgent, the driver must indicate that is "driving" or "call back later".
- Maintain full attention when driving any vehicle, especially when traveling on busy roads where traffic jams are frequent and you must react quickly.
- Drivers are aware of the Global Standard for Mobile Phone Use While Driving









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Assess the risks and plan your ourney to use the safest route.



e of a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving is prohibited.



Keep a Safe Distance

Leave enough space between you and the vehicle in front so you can stop safely.



STOP THINK