



# Backing Up PRSC 1.28.21

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# Employer Transportation Safety

Transportation incidents are the leading cause of work-related fatal injuries.

47% TX

40% US

The estimated cost of motor-vehicle deaths, injuries, and property damage in the first six month of 2020 was \$206.4 billion

MVC's  
Human  
Error  
~ 90%

# Backing Collisions

Backing collisions account for a large percentage of the losses trucking companies experience

Backing collisions cause over 500 deaths and 15,000 injuries per year

\*NSC Injury Facts

# Preventable Incidents

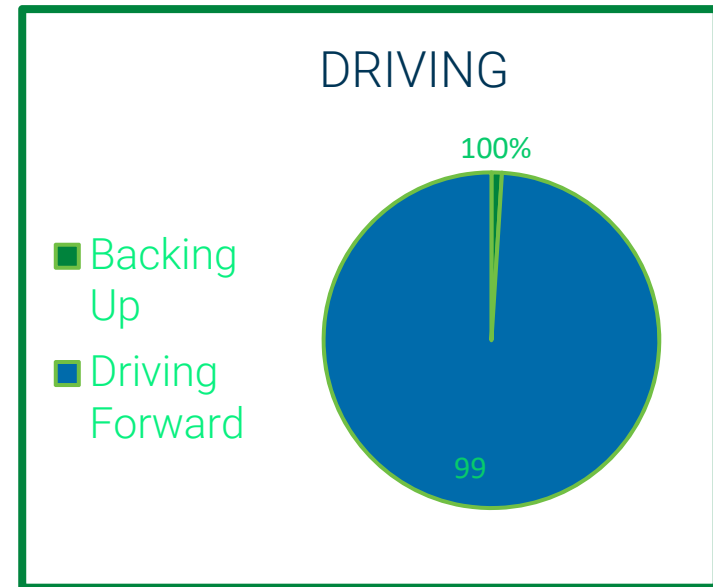
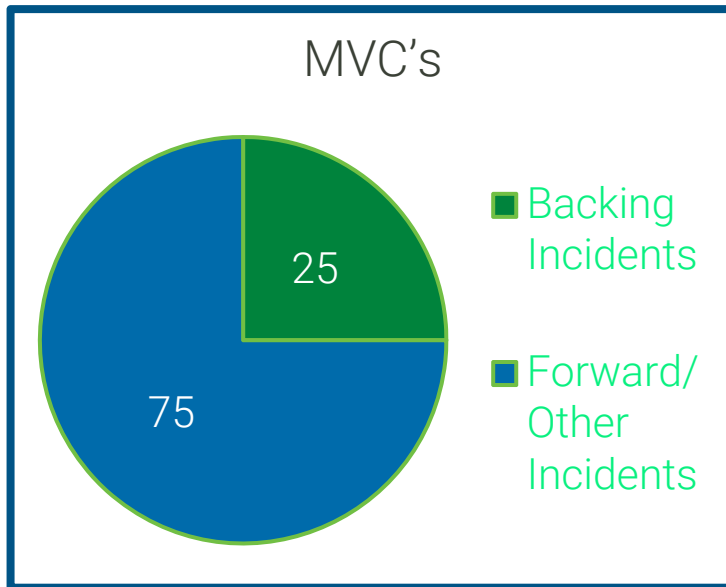
Preventable incidents are an incident in which the driver failed to exercise every reasonable precaution to prevent it.

It is the driver's responsibility to ensure the path behind the vehicle is clear, this type of loss is usually considered preventable.

# Defensive Driving Skills

"driving to save lives, time, and money, in spite of the conditions around you and the actions of others."

The standard Safe Practices for Motor Vehicle Operations, ANSI/ASSE Z15.1,  
is taken from the National Safety Council's Defensive Driving



One out of four MVC's can be blamed on poor backing techniques, and

\*National Safety Council

# Backing Incidents

Drivers may not be able to see a person / worker in their blind spot.

Workers / people may not hear backup alarms because of other noises or because the alarms are not functioning.

A spotter assisting one truck may not see another truck behind him.

Workers riding on vehicles may fall off and get backed over.

Drivers may assume that the area is clear and not look in the direction of travel.



## Driver Safety

How often does an employee get in and out of a vehicle?

On and off the job

To and from work

While performing job functions

To get to the location to perform job functions

# Employer Driving Safety What you can do

- Educate
- Equip
- Train
- Monitor
- Reinforce
- Repeat

Prepare:

- Workforce changes
- Safety leaders change
- Equipment & vehicles change
- Work environment change

# Policy Guidelines

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## VEHICLE BACKING & SPOTTER POLICY

- Clearly defined
- Who?
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Pictures (hand signals)
- Employee Acknowledgement

# Striking Fixed Objects

Avoid parking near stationary objects, if possible.

Striking fixed objects is 100% avoidable if the proper steps are taken to prevent these kinds of incidents.

Fixed Object- refers to permanent or semi-permanent structures such as boulders, impact attenuators, bridges, concrete traffic barriers, embankments, culverts, etc.

# Common Causes of Backing Collisions

- Inattention

Many drivers do not pay enough attention  
Driving is not the priority

- Rushing

Drivers are in a hurry and do not allow themselves  
enough time to make decision and act upon them

# Backing Up: Parking on Arrival

On arrival plan for your exit

Scan the parking area when choosing your parking space

Evaluate the parking environment and its unique characteristics

Look for opportunities to avoid backing

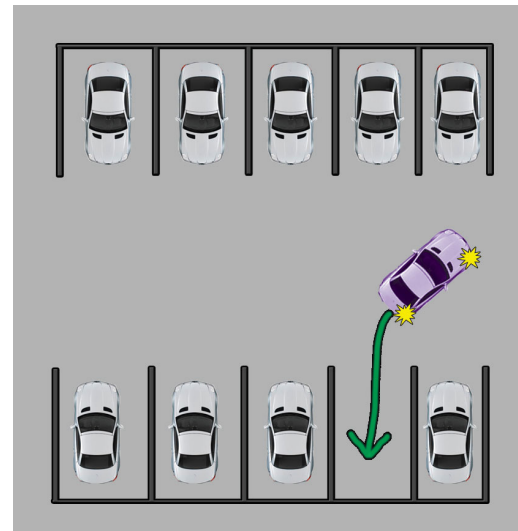
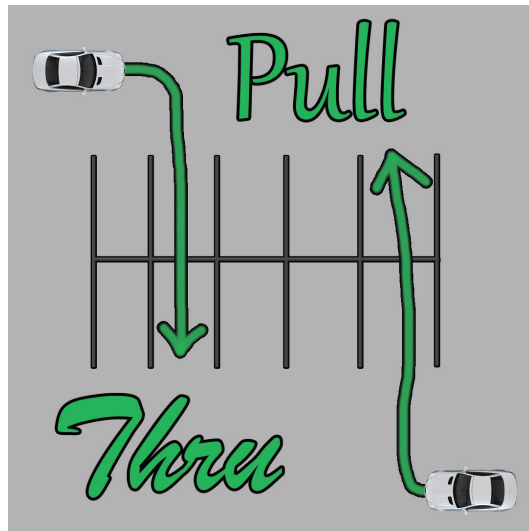
# Backing Up: Parking on Arrival

Park away from entrances, exits and other cars.

Choose easy-exit parking spaces that don't crowd neighboring vehicles and park the vehicle in the center of the parking space.

Look for opportunities at corners, behind red zones and other environments where people cannot park in front of your vehicle, or near your vehicle.

# Pull Through or Back In On Arrival



Avoid  
backing  
whenever  
possible



# Backing Up Safely: Minimize Risk

Back up only when necessary

- Think twice, look twice
- Before and during backing, scan the area
- Use the rear view camera as a third mirror
- When in doubt stop and get out
- Vehicle beacon when backing, light / sound

# If you **MUST** Back

Look, think & plan

At the targeted backing area

Look high (cables, etc.)

Look low

Scan the entire area; Identify potential hazards

# Backing Up Safely: Minimize Risk

- Minimize the distance you need to back.
- Don't rush
- Check all sides as you back
  - Six sides: back, front, both sides, above and below
  - Keep your eyes moving to ensure conditions have not changed.

# Backing Up Safely: Minimize Risk

- Back from the driver's side
  - Backing toward the right side is very dangerous because you cannot see as well.
  - If you back and turn toward the driver's side, you can watch the rear of your vehicle by looking out the side window.
- The forward facing position of the drivers body in a backward moving vehicle itself creates blind areas.

# Driver and Spotter Responsibilities

Both Driver and spotter should know and be trained on what each of the responsibilities are and have a safety responsibility

# Driver and Spotter Responsibilities

Turn off the radio and roll down windows to maintain good communication with the spotter.

Know where all the blind spots are located.

Maintain a safe and consistent operating speed.

Maintain eye contact with the spotter until the spotter has completed instructions and moved from the line of travel.

If sight of the spotter is lost, stop the vehicle immediately.



# Driver and **Spotter Responsibilities**

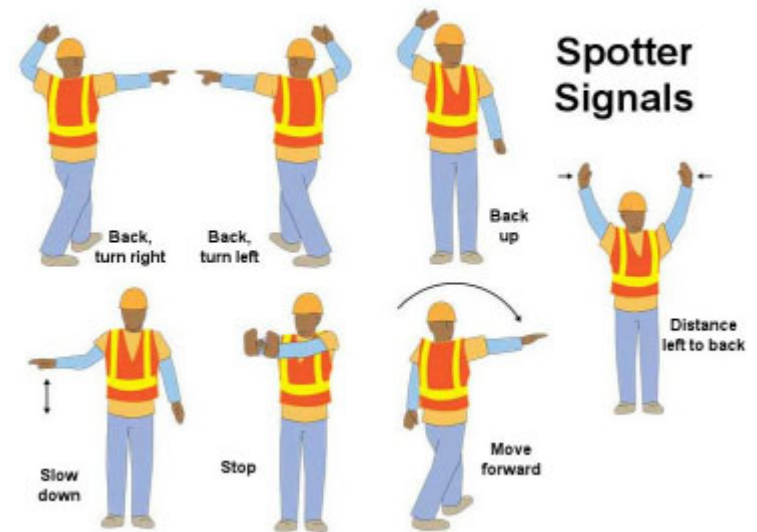
Place yourself eight to ten feet on the driver's side of the vehicle.

If more than one spotter is necessary, only one spotter should give signals to the driver.

Wear a safety vest or reflective clothing.

Use universal spotter signals to direct the driver.

Do not walk backwards while giving instructions.

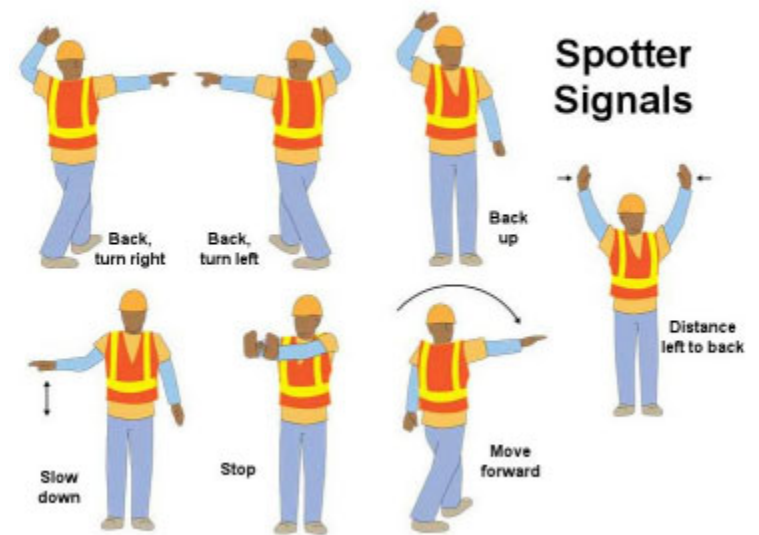


# Driver and **Spotter Responsibilities**

Ensure there is a route of escape to use in case driver loses control of the vehicle or fails to see the spotter.

Do not place yourself between the vehicle and a fixed object.

Maintain eye contact with driver through the window or side mirrors.





# GOAL: Get Out And Look

Do a walk-around.

Begin backing directly after your walk-around.

Don't just think you're clear, KNOW you're clear:



# Driver Safety

A driver's license does not indicate someone has "good" driving skills or replace the need for driving safety education.

No amount of forward-driving experience can help a driver with backing a truck or other vehicles.

# Driver Safety

## Driver Training, Coaching and Monitoring

All drivers need education, training/coaching, practice and monitoring.

- Supervisors need to train and monitor drivers' skills before allowing them to drive company vehicles.

Have drivers practice in safe surroundings until they become familiar with the way the vehicle backs up compared to the direction the steering wheel is turned.

# ROI Driver Training, Coaching and Monitoring

Reaction  
VS \$\$\$\$  
Prevention

Prepare  
VS \$\$  
Repair

# Driver Safety Education 100% of employees

Part-time employees,

- 15-18 year olds
- Aging workforce
- Interns

Policy

Consistent and on-going

# Driver Safety: Backing

- Plan ahead to avoid backing wherever possible
- Back in when you arrive, rather than when you leave
- Avoid blindside backing. Back from the driver's side
- Walk around the back of your vehicle before backing and scan the entire area
  - Know clearances
    - Look high and low
  - Then immediately begin to back

# Driver Safety: Backing

- Know your vehicle's blind spots
  - What if you drive different fleet vehicles?
- Use a spotter
  - Make sure you can see them at all times
- Use your mirrors
  - Make sure they are clean and in good working order
- Get in and start backing immediately after checking behind your vehicle Back slowly and continually check the rear and sides
- Look and listen
  - Roll the window down

## Driver Safety: Backing

All incidents and near misses should be reported

Investigate all indicants and near misses

Ensure policies and procedures are being followed by all employees

- Contractors, expectations



# Driver Safety: Backing

ROI

Bottom Line

Empower Employees

See Something Say Something

Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

Educate, Equip, Train, Monitor, Reinforce Repeat



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