



TRUCK YARD TRAFFIC AND AVOIDING ACCIDENTS

INTRODUCTION

The rushing driver and the absent-minded pedestrian can be a deadly combination. Drivers who are safety-conscious have developed good habits that begin and end in the truck yard or parking facility.

DRIVERS

- Take your time in the yard, slow down and be aware of what you are doing.
- Check for pedestrians, other vehicles & obstructions before pulling out of the yard.
- Follow the proper flow of traffic.
- Maintain a safe speed while in the yard.
- Pull into a space properly by not blocking a lane or crowding others. It is wise to park so you can drive forward when leaving the space. This eliminates backing out of a space.
- When exiting your vehicle, look over your shoulder before opening the door and watch to make certain that another vehicle isn't in the process of parking next to yours.
- Always stay to the right side of the aisles and observe any posted speed limits.
- When backing up, remember, you can't see everything behind you.

Backing Up

- Avoid backing if possible.
- Back to the driver's side, (left), only if at all possible. This provides the driver with a clearer view of his trailer and helper.
- Back the shortest distance possible.
- Avoid backing into traffic wherever possible.
- Try not to back around an intersection or the corner of a structure. This is blind backing.
- If you are backing and you have a partner in the rig, have that person get out and assist in directing you. Agree on hand signals before you start the maneuver.
- Make sure you can see the person directing you on the ground.
- Walk around the vehicle before backing. Look over your path of travel to see that it is clear. You may have to walk around several times during a difficult maneuver, if alone.
- Do not go heavy on the accelerator or ride the clutch.
- Do not over-steer and watch the mirrors closely.



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PEDESTRIANS

- When moving through the yard or parking facility, walk in the designated walkways and crosswalks.
- Always be aware of your surroundings and listen for moving traffic.
- Yield the right of way or make sure that the vehicle has yielded to you.
- Never assume that the driver has seen you and recognized your intention to step into the truck path.
- Avoid horseplay in the parking yard.
- Do not distract drivers.
- Always remain alert to the equipment moving around you.
- Do not get near moving equipment unless necessary.
- Do not walk along or beside equipment. If it is necessary to travel with a piece of equipment, walk in front or behind it.
- Try to stay in view of the operator.



CONCLUSION

Parking yards and facilities can be dangerous places where accidents can occur. Your awareness is the key. Always consider your safety and the safety of others when arriving at and leaving yards and parking facilities.

