

VLR SAFETY TAILGATE TALK

August 2016

Subject: Backing Accidents

Date: _____

Location (garage, mm, etc...):

Instructions:

Safety Coordinators & Supervisors should use this Tailgate Talk as a guide for discussion during their safety meetings. The primary purpose of the safety meetings is to give crews the opportunity to discuss any safety related concerns they may have.

Once the meeting has concluded, the Presenter should have each employee sign this form and include their Employee ID# in the spaces below.

TGT Presenter: _____

Name	Employee
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Roughly one out of every four accidents (25%) involves backing. Considering that the average driver operates in reverse less than a mile every year, this statistic is even more alarming.

The following tips will help you avoid collisions while backing:

- ◇ Avoid backing whenever possible. Drivers should plan ahead to reduce backing operations in the first place.
- ◇ Try to position the vehicle to avoid backing.
- ◇ If backing cannot be avoided, it is better to back in upon arrival then to back out later while departing.
- ◇ Conduct a visual walk-around of the vehicle to identify potential hazards.
- ◇ Whenever available, use a passenger to guide you during backing operations.
- ◇ Always back slowly while continuously looking and listening for signs of trouble.
- ◇ Continuously check all mirrors while backing.

Following are key collision failures related to backing operations:

- ⇒ Failure to look before backing.
- ⇒ Failure to check blind spots or use spotter to guide you.
- ⇒ Failure to conduct a walk-around.
- ⇒ Backing at an unsafe speed.
- ⇒ Failure to check mirrors often.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Safety Tailgate Talk or any safety related concerns, please contact the VTrans Safety Team.