

- Receive required training and CDL endorsements for vehicles we operate.
- Learn safe driving tactics for a variety of road conditions and potential hazards.
- Assess and confirm safe driving knowledge and skills before driving alone.

Toolbox Talk Guide



Dump truck driver drives off embankment after losing control

INSTRUCTIONS: Hold the guide with this side facing you and the other side facing your crew. Then read the story.

Our safety talk today is about a 46-year-old dump truck driver who was killed after a high impact crash. The driver was hauling cinder on a 2-lane road in a truck with two loaded dump trailers attached. The driver lost control while making a turn on a downhill slope. The trailers tipped over, pulling the truck down the embankment. This was only the driver's second day on the job, and he did not hold the proper CDL endorsement for this type of truck-trailer combination. It is not known whether he was wearing his seat belt. The equipment was found to be in sound operating condition. The driver died at the scene of multiple blunt force injuries.

So here are some ways we can prevent something like this from happening where we work.

- Only accept work you are qualified to perform, including having the right training and CDL endorsements.
- Make sure you have received training on safe operation of all the types of vehicles we use. Understand the potential hazards of different road conditions we might encounter and how to safely drive in those conditions. Always wear your seat belt when driving.
- Safe driving skills should be evaluated initially, periodically, and whenever unsafe practices are observed, such as an experienced driver doing a ride-along to observe, document, and recommend improvements.
- Speak up if you or another driver you know of don't have the training or endorsements to safely perform the assigned work, and refuse work if you believe it is unsafe.

ASK: "Does anyone have more ideas or comments to share?" Pause for discussion. Then see if there are ways to take action.

END WITH ACTION PLAN (ideas for what to ask or say).

- "Does anyone know of any instances where we assign drivers without providing instruction on safe practices?"
- "What do we do to make sure our drivers are qualified and licensed to safely operate equipment under different road conditions? Are there any vehicles or equipment you feel drivers (especially new drivers) could use more training on?"
- Discuss a similar situation or potential hazard at your current site.
- Express your commitment to train people for each type of vehicle they operate.
- Commit to follow-up at the next safety talk.