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Supplementary Notes

15. Supplementary Notes  
This publication contains briefs of selected highway accident investigations  
conducted during 1977, 1978 and 1979. The brief formats present basic facts,  
conditions, circumstances and probable cause(s) in each instance.

16. Abstract  
ATL-77-F-H001  ATL-79-F-H017  IAD-77-F-H003  MCK-79-F-H022
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FOREWORD

The National Transportation Safety Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974, has determined the probable causes of the 41 U.S. highway accidents reported herein.

The enclosed briefs are the reports of the National Transportation Safety Board and are thereby subject to the limitation of 49 USC 1903(c):

"No part of any report or reports of the Board, relating to any accident or the investigation thereof, shall be admitted as evidence or used in any suit or action for damages growing out of any matter mentioned in such report or reports."

For those readers who wish more detailed information, the original factual reports are on file in the Washington, D.C., office of the National Transportation Safety Board and may be examined. These reports will be reproduced for a fee covering reproduction cost and postage. Orders for material also are subject to a user charge by the Board for special services, and such charge will be included in the bill.

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Washington, D.C. 20594
National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-135-79
Highway Accident Number: ATL-77-F-0001

Location:
City: Leslie
State: Georgia
Local time: 12:15
Date: 05/04/77
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Daylight

Road: U.S. Route 280
Intersecting Street: None

Vehicle:
Year: 1974
Make: Pontiac
Model: Lemans
Type: 2-door hardtop
Operator: C.D. Scroggins
City & State of Business/Residence: Cordele, Georgia

Year: 1967
Make: White
Model: 9564TD
Type: Tractor
Operator: Cordele Sash, Door and Lumber Co.
City & State of Business/Residence: Cordele, Georgia

Year: 1970
Make: Johnson
Model: Custom Built
Trailer: Semitrailer
Operator: Cordele Sash, Door and Lumber Co.
City & State of Business/Residence: Cordele, Georgia

Description: A westbound Pontiac on U.S. Route 280 crossed the painted solid centerline in the path of an eastbound tractor-trailer. Neither vehicle attempted evasive action prior to head-on impact. The tractor and the Pontiac were destroyed. There was no alcohol involvement in the accident.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Driver of Pontiac
2. Passengers in Pontiac
3. Driver of tractor-semitrailer

Probable Cause of Injury:
1. Crushing impact forces.
2. Other Property: $25,000
3. Other Property: 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: KY-74-78
Highway Accident Number: ATL-77-Y-H004

Location:
City: Kings Mountain
State: North Carolina
Local time: 1400
Date: 07/31/77
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Daylight

Road: U.S. Route 74
Intersecting Street: None
City & State of Business/Residence: Unknown

Vehicle: Year: Make Model Type Operator
1. 1971 Silver Eagle 05 Bus Continental Southeastern Lines, Inc. Dallas, Texas
2. 1969 Mercury Marquis 2-door sedan Name unknown
3.
4.

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
A westbound Mercury crossed a 12-foot grass median and struck an eastbound bus left front-to-left front. The accident occurred at the beginning of a merge of the 4-lane divided highway into a 1-lane, 2-way highway. Four of the 6 occupants of the Mercury were killed. The blood alcohol level of the Mercury driver was 0.60 percent.

Probable Cause:
1. Failure of Mercury driver to maintain directional control of his vehicle.
2. Driver intoxication.
3. 

Other Factors:
1. Absence of a median divider at the merge location.
2. 
3. 

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of Mercury 1 Driver of bus
3 Passengers in Mercury 2 Passengers in Mercury

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Failure to wear available restraints; ejection.
2. Impact forces.
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: Unknown
Other Property: Unknown
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-75-78
Highway Accident Number: ATL-78-T-M002

Reporting
Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Location:
City Altamont
State Tennessee
Road Burroughs Cover Road

Local time: Date: Weather: Light condition: 2130 03/15/78 Clear - dry Darkness

Intersecting Street None

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1977 Ford Box ["flat" van rental] Erwin C. Schmidt
2. 
3. 
4. 

Accident

Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
A van occupied by a driver and 21 passengers was westbound on Burroughs Cover Road. Failing to negotiate a left-hand curve, it ran off the road in a 5 percent downgrade, vaulted from the top of a steep embankment and dropped 40 feet to the ground below. The van was destroyed, and 4 of the 21 passengers were killed. Van left no skidmarks on the road. Results of a blood alcohol test performed on the driver were calculated to be 0.105 percent.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing forces.
2. 
3. 

Other Factors:
1. Absence of road markings on a recently resurfaced road.
2. 
3. 

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing forces.
2. 
3. 

Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)

4 Passengers in van 1 Driver of van

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $9,500 Other Property: 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-123-79

Highway Accident Number: ATL-78-F-H006

Location:
City: Doraville
State: Georgia
Local time: 1719
Date: 07/21/78
Weather: Clear
Light condition: Daylight

Road: Interstate 285
Intersecting Street: State Road 403

Vehicle: Year: 1977
Make: International
Model: Trans II
Type: Tractor-trailer
Operator: Rollins Leasing Corp.
City & State of Business/Residence: Doraville, Georgia

1. 1977 Tractor-trailer struck a motorcycle and a dump truck.

Vehicle: Year: 1970
Make: Honda
Model: 760
Type: Motorcycle
Operator: Richard Scott Branning
City & State of Business/Residence: Atlanta, Georgia

2. Motorcycle collided with a dump truck.

Vehicle: Year: 1973
Make: Dodge
Model: 1971
Type: Dump truck
Operator: Garhart Trucking Co.
City & State of Business/Residence: Forest Park, Georgia

3. Dump truck involved in a collision with a motorcycle.

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)

When a southbound tractor-trailer applied brakes for slow moving traffic ahead, it jackknifed to the left, striking a southbound motorcycle and shoving it laterally into the right front of a Dodge dump truck.

Probable Cause:
1. Excessive tractor-trailer speed, resulting in loss of control in construction zone.

2. ____________________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________________

Other Factors:
1. None.

2. ____________________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________________

Fatalities:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver of motorcycle

Injuries:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
0

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $2,800

Other Property: 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Docket Number: HY-117-78
Highway Accident Number: ATL-78-P-4011

Location:
City: Forest Park
State: Georgia
Road: U.S. Highway 17-91
Intersecting Street: Main Street

Local time: 1320
Date: 08/15/78
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Daylight

Vehicle:
1. Year: 1977
Make: White
Model: RB164T
Type: Tractor
Operator: Schwerman Trucking Co.
City & State of Business/Residence: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2. Year: 1969
Make: Heil
Model: MC307
Type: Tank trailer
Operator: Schwerman Trucking Co.

3. 

4. 

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
The truck was northbound on U.S. Highway 17-91 when the tank trailer failed at a weld between the second and third compartments, permitting the cargo to spill. One fireman was injured while fighting the ensuing fire.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Toxic fumes.
2. 
3. 

Probable Cause of Casualty: Property Losses:

1. Fireman

Vehicles: $20,000
Other Property: $5,000 (cargo)
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Docket Number: NY-92-78

Highway Accident Number: ATL-79-F-H004

Location:
City: Clarkston
State: Georgia

Road: Interstate 285
Intersecting Street: North Decatur

Vehicle:
1. Year: 1978
Make: Buick
Model: Regal
Type: 2-door sedan
Operator: Victoria Irene Lancaster

City & State of Business/Residence: Lithia Springs, Georgia

Accident Description:
The northbound Buick, traveling at a high rate of speed, went out of control and struck and mounted the guardrail. It rode the guardrail, struck a bridge abutment rode the bridge rail and then vaulted to the roadway below, landing on its roof and left side.

Probable Cause:
1. Influence of alcohol on driver.
2. Excessive speed for road condition.
3. Inadequate performance of guardrail system.

Other Factors:
1. None.
2. 3.

Fatalities:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver of Buick
2. Passengers in Buick

Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
0:

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing impact forces.
2. Failure of occupants to use available restraints.
3. Other:

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $7,000
Other Property: $3,000
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-93-78

Highway Accident Number: ATL-79-F-1005

**Reporting**
Agency: Atlanta Field Office

**Location:**
City: Courtland
State: Alabama
Local time: 1815
Date: 10/21/78
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Dusk

**Road:** State Route 20
**State Route 13**

**Vehicle:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>City &amp; State of Business/Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>Gran</td>
<td>James Webb</td>
<td>Courtland, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Tractor-Semi-trailer</td>
<td>Lee Way Trucking Co.</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Ford</td>
<td>Pinto</td>
<td>Gary W. Allen</td>
<td>Hillsboro, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accident Description:**
A Plymouth was westbound on State Route 20 at a high rate of speed when its driver lost control of the vehicle. The Plymouth sideswiped an eastbound truck, went into a yaw and struck the Pinto headon. The driver of the Pinto was ejected and killed. The other five occupants of the Pinto died inside the vehicle. Blood alcohol test results for the Plymouth driver were 0.16 percent.

**Probable Cause:**
1. Failure to maintain control of the Plymouth due to excessive speed and driver intoxication.

**Other Factors:**
1. None.

**Fatalities:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
<th>Injuries:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Driver of Pinto</td>
<td>1 Driver of Plymouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Passengers in Pinto</td>
<td>1 Passenger in Plymouth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**
1. Failure to wear occupant restraints.
2. Ejection from vehicle; impact with roadway.
3. Collision forces.

**Property Losses:**
Vehicles: $55,000
Other Property: $0
**National Transportation Safety Board**

**Location:**
- **City:** Charleston
- **State:** Tennessee
- **Road:** Interstate 75
- **Intersecting Street:** None
- **Local time:** 0845
- **Date:** 11/05/78
- **Weather:** Fog - dry
- **Light condition:** Daylight

**Reporting Agency:** Atlanta Field Office

**Docket Number:** HY-94-78

**Highway Accident Number:** ATL-79-F-006

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**Vehicle:**
- **Year Make Model Type Operator**
- **1.** 63 vehicles, including 3 tractor-semitrailer combination units, several automobiles pulling travel trailers,
- **2.** a police car, and numerous automobiles,
- **3.**
- **4.**

**Accident Description:**
Sudden development of an extremely dense patch of fog rapidly reduced visibility over a 2-mile stretch of Interstate 75 to almost zero. Vehicles suddenly entering the unexpected fog bank were unable to stop before striking unseen vehicles. Others did stop and were struck from the rear. Other fog accidents have occurred in this same location during the past 4 years. All have been multi-vehicle, but no fatalities have occurred since 1974. In all, there has been 72 injuries and significant property damage.

**Probable Cause:**
1. Reduced visibility due to the sudden development of dense fog.
2. Failure of drivers to heed advance fog warning signs and reduce speed accordingly.
3. 

**Other Factors:**
1.
2.
3.

**Fatalities:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
<th>Injuries:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**
1. Impact forces.
2. 
3. 

**Property Losses:**

- **Vehicles:** $63,000
- **Other Property:** $5,000

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NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-98-78
Highway Accident Number: All-79-F-010

Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Location:
City Route: 3127
State: Louisiana
Intersecting Street: None

Local time: 00:00
Date: 12/15/78
Weather: Rain
Light condition: Dusk

Road State Route: 3127

Vehicle:

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)

Trying to cross the railroad tracks ahead of a train, a tractor-semitrailer loaded with anhydrous ammonia drove around lowered gates into the train's path. Upon impact, the cargo tank ruptured, releasing the hazardous material. The tractor-semitrailer also struck an Oldsmobile standing on the opposite side of the crossing which was protected by operating flashing red lights, bells and gates. There was no view obstruction.

Failure of truckdriver to stop his truck short of the railroad tracks in response to warning of an approaching train.

Probable Cause:
1. Approaching train.
2. Other:
3. Factors:
1. Release of anhydrous ammonia into the atmosphere.
2. Other:
3. Other:

Fatalities:
1. Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Pedestrians: 3

Injuries:
1. Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Pedestrians: 30

Driver of Oldsmobile: 1
Passengers in Oldsmobile: 2
Truckdriver: 1

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Inhalation of ammonia fumes.
2. Impact forces.
3. Other:

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $20,000
Other Property: $5,000
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: NY-99-78
Highway Accident Number: ATL-79-7-2011

Location:
City:  Ramah  State: Louisiana  Local time: 12:45  Date: 12/16/78  Weather: Raining - wet  Light condition: Daylight
Road: Interstate Route 10  Intersecting Street: Milepost 130

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type of Vehicle Operator City & State of Business/Residence
3. 1977 Ford LTD 2-door Peggy Garner Carthage, Texas
4. 1974 Ford 8 3/4 ton Utility Truck-camper-trailer Unoccupied NA

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
A 1969 GMC truck towing a camper-trailer westbound on Interstate 10 approached two vehicles parked on the right roadway shoulder, a 1977 Ford LTD behind a 1974 Ford truck hitched to a camper-trailer. A 1977 GMC tractor-semi-trailer rapidly gaining on the 1969 GMC truck-camper-trailer suddenly swerved left to avoid the camper-trailer. In doing so, it struck a reinforced concrete bridge, then swerved right toward the righthand road shoulder. Crossing the right lane diagonally, it contacted the left front of the 1969 truck-camper-trailer. On the right shoulder, the tractor-semi-trailer overrode the Ford LTD. The two slid into the 1974 Ford truck-camper-trailer. All three exploded and burned.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Failure of driver of tractor-semi-trailer to maintain control over his vehicle.
2. 
3. 

Other Factors:
1. None.
2. 
3. 

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of tractor-semi-trailer 1 Driver of Ford LTD
3 Passengers in Ford LTD

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Fire.
2. Ejection from vehicle.
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $8,500
Other Property: $0
FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Local time: Date: Weather: Light condition:
City: Norcross State: Georgia
Road: Austwell Road Intersecting Street: Old Peachtree Road

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1972 Ford Stationwagon John William Clayton
2. General Electric GSU23B Freight train Southern Railway Co.
3. 
4. 

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
An eastbound stationwagon drove past flashing warning lights and around a lowered railroad gate at a railroad grade crossing into the path of a Southern Railway train. The train, which was traveling about 45 mph, struck the stationwagon; its two occupants were ejected.

Probable Cause: Disregard of traffic controls at a railroad crossing.

Probable 1. Disregard of traffic controls at a railroad crossing.

Cause: 2. Apparent failure to perceive approaching train.

Other Factors: 1. Precedence of unidentified van around lowered gate.
2. Use of alcohol by driver of stationwagon.

Fatalities:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of Ford
2
3

Injuries:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Passenger in Ford
2
3

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing structure deformation.
2. Ejection from vehicle.

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $800
Other Property: $0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-154-79
Highway Accident Number: ATL-79-F-H019

Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Location:
- City: DeKalb County
- State: Georgia
- Road: Georgia Route 365
- Intersecting Street: Georgia Route 20
- Local time: 1845
- Date: 02/28/79
- Weather: Clear - dry
- Light condition: Daylight (sunset)

Vehicle: Year | Make | Model | Type | Operator | Business/Residence
---|---|---|---|---|---
1. | 1970 | Chevrolet | Caprice | 2-door sedan | Roger Lee Truelove | Gainesville, Georgia
2. | 1973 | Plymouth | Fury | 2-door sedan | Curtis William Moore | Gainesville, Georgia
3. |
4. |

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
The Chevrolet was traveling southbound at a high rate of speed; the Plymouth was northbound on Georgia Route 365, a 4-lane, divided highway with no median barrier. The right rear tire on the Chevrolet blew out. The Chevrolet rotated, veered across the 40-foot-wide grassy median and was struck broadside by the Plymouth. Two Chevrolet passengers were killed. Drivers of both cars and occupants of the Plymouth were injured.

Probable Cause:
1. Defective tire blow-out.
2. Excessive speed.
3. Loss of control.

Other Factors:
1. Absence of median barrier.
2. Possible use of alcohol by driver of Chevrolet.
3. 

Fatalities:
- Number: 2
- Passengers in Chevrolet

Injuries:
- Number: 1
- Passenger in Chevrolet
- Passengers in Plymouth
- Driver of Plymouth
- Driver of Chevrolet

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Failure to wear available seatbelts.
2. Impact with interior components of vehicles.
3.

Property Losses:
- Vehicular: $6,500
- Other Property: $0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Washington, D.C.  20594  
Docket Number: HW-147279  
Highway Accident Number: IAD-79-2-3008

Reporting Agency: Dallas Field Office

Location:  
City: Fulton County
State: Pennsylvania
Road: Interstate 70
Intersecting Street: Milepost 7/45

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1972 GMC Astro-65 Tractor Kemp Furniture Industries, Inc.  
2. 1969 Black Diamond Box Semitrailer Kemp Furniture Industries, Inc.  
3.  
4.  

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
Westbound truck went out of control as driver applied the brakes on a snow covered highway. The unit jackknifed and overturned after striking a guardrail. Vehicle skidded 145 feet on its side. This was a four-lane divided highway.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Dynamics of vehicle overturn
2.  
3.  

Probable Factors:
1. None
2.  
3.  

Fatality Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
None

Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Truck - driver - minor injuries

Property Losses:  
Vehicles: $7,500
Other Property: $500 guardrail
### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

**Reporting Agency:** Atlanta Field Office  
**Docket Number:** HY-190-79  
**Highway Accident Number:** ATL-79-P-H023

### Location:
- **City:** Calhoun  
- **State:** Tennessee  
- **Road:** Interstate 75  
- **Intersecting Street:** Milepost 35  
- **Local time:** 0745  
- **Date:** 04/15/79  
- **Weather:** Clear-dry-patchy fog  
- **Light condition:** Daylight  

### Vehicle:
1. 18 vehicles, including 3 tractor-semi-trailers, 4 station wagons and 11 automobiles
2.  
3.  
4.  

### Description:
Type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors

At 0745, a 1500-foot stretch of Interstate 75 was enveloped in extremely dense fog. Visibility approaching the fog patch, however, was good. With no immediate advance warning, a southbound station wagon suddenly entered the fog and braked abruptly. A tractor-semi-trailer struck the station wagon in the rear, then overturned. A second tractor-semi-trailer struck the overturned trailer and itself overturned. A chain reaction of collisions followed. Interstate 75 was closed until the fog cleared at 0830. Six similar multiple-vehicle collisions have occurred in this same area in the past 5 years, resulting in 6 deaths, 86 injuries and 126 damaged or destroyed vehicles. Fog warning signs are posted 6 and 7 miles in advance of the accident site.

### Probable Cause of Collisions Followed:

1. Sudden reduction in visibility.
2. Reduction in varying degrees of vehicle speeds.
3.  

### Other Factors:
1. Excessive vehicle speeds for available visibility, driver reaction and vehicle stopping capabilities.
2.  
3.  

### Fatalities:
- **Number:** (driver, passenger, pedestrian)  
  - **Number:** Drivers  
  - **Number:** Passengers  

### Injuries:
- **Number:** (driver, passenger, pedestrian)  
  - **Number:** Drivers  
  - **Number:** Passengers  

### Property Losses:
- **Vehicles:** $100,000 +  
- **Other Property:** $5,000 

### Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing and impact forces.  
2. Ejection from vehicle.  
3. Failure to wear occupant restraints.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MAKE</th>
<th>MODEL</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>OPERATOR</th>
<th>CITY/STATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Freight Loader</td>
<td>Tractor-semitrailer</td>
<td>Taylor Produce</td>
<td>Brodhead, Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Freight Loader</td>
<td>Tractor-semitrailer</td>
<td>Bowman</td>
<td>Gadsden, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Jimmie J. Simpson</td>
<td>Hollywood, Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Dodge</td>
<td>Charger</td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Carol M. Harris</td>
<td>Newport, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Chevrolet</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-door sedan</td>
<td>Robert Beard</td>
<td>Laura, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Pontiac</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Ray Swann</td>
<td>Newport, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Chevrolet</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Sue Bohnett</td>
<td>Flowervile, Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Ford</td>
<td>Pinto</td>
<td>Stationwagon</td>
<td>Kim Bennett</td>
<td>Chatto, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Pontiac</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-door sedan</td>
<td>Elaine S. Goodman</td>
<td>Beachwood, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stationwagon</td>
<td>Neville Broad</td>
<td>Ontario, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Gene Carl Burke</td>
<td>Ecorse, Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Ford</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stationwagon</td>
<td>Daniel O. Noren</td>
<td>Woerum, Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Oldsmobile</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Fay C. Barber</td>
<td>Wellington, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Chevrolet</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>William E. Bertele</td>
<td>Cincinnati, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Buick</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Robert H. Edgington</td>
<td>St. James, Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Ford</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-door sedan</td>
<td>John F. Cureton</td>
<td>Detroit, Michigan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### National Transportation Safety Board

**Location:**
- **City:** Grand Chanier
- **State:** Louisiana
- **Road:** State Route 82
- **Intersecting Street:** Milepost 69.6
- **Date:** 06/14/79
- **Weather:** Clear - dry
- **Light condition:** Dark

**Vehicle:**
- **Year:** 1979
- **Make:** Ford
- **Model:** E250
- **Type:** Van
- **Operator:** International Meeting & Marine

**City & State of Business/Residence:**
- **City:** New Iberia, Louisiana

### Accident Description:
The van, occupied by a driver and 7 passengers, was traveling at an estimated speed of 80 mph. It ran off of the road on a left-hand curve, penetrated a wooden shoulder barrier, struck a bridge abutment, became airborne across a canal and landed on its side. One occupant was ejected into the canal. The van caught on fire. A toxicological test performed on the driver indicated a blood alcohol level of 0.27 percent.

### Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Loss of control of van by driver due to driver intoxication and excessive speed.
2. 
3. 

### Other Factors:
1. Non-conforming shoulder barrier.
2. 
3. 

### Fatalities:
- **Number:*** (driver, passenger, pedestrian)  
  - 1 Driver of van
  - 4 Passengers in van

### Injuries:
- **Number:** (driver, passenger, pedestrian)  
  - 3 Passengers in van

### Property Losses:
- **Cars:** $10,000
- **Other Property:** $1,000
### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

**Reporting Agency:** Atlanta Field Office  
**Docket Number:** NY-180-79

**Location:**  
- **City:** New Hope  
- **State:** Florida  
- **State Route:** 79  
- **Intersecting Street:** None  
- **Local time:** 0035  
- **Date:** 06/07/79  
- **Weather:** Clear - dry  
- **Light condition:** Darkness

### Vehicle Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>City &amp; State of Business/Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Chrysler</td>
<td>Cordoba</td>
<td>2-door</td>
<td>James H. Mecklenburg, Jr.</td>
<td>Huntsville, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Oldsmobile</td>
<td>Cutlass</td>
<td>Hardtop coupe</td>
<td>Michael Gene Carroll, Jr.</td>
<td>Chieflay, Florida</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The Chrysler was southbound. For unknown reasons, the Chrysler crossed the northbound lane, ran off the road, reconvered both lanes and then reversed to the left, striking the northbound Oldsmobile headon. No precrash mechanical defects could be found in the Chrysler. All four occupants of the Chrysler were killed. Two of the three occupants of the Oldsmobile were killed.

### Probable Cause of Casualty

1. Impact forces.
2. Failure to wear occupant restraints.
3. 

### Fatalities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>(Driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Driver of Chrysler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Passengers in Chrysler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Driver of Oldsmobile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Passenger in Oldsmobile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Injuries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>(Driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Passenger in Oldsmobile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Property Losses

- **Vehicles:** $8,500
- **Other Property:** $0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office
Docket Number: HY-197-79
Highway Accident Number: ATL-79-T-0026

Location:
City: Atlanta
State: Georgia
Local time: 1930
Date: 07/18/79
Weather: Raining - wet
Light condition: Daylight

Road: Interstate 285
Intersecting Street: Sewell Road

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1978 GMC C.O.E. Tractor Ryder Truck Rental
2. 1976 Plymouth 3-seat Stationwagon Ambrose Lamar Boswell
3. 1976 Cadillac 4-door sedan Katie V. Davis
4. 1970 Oldsmobile 88 2-door sedan Abandoned

City & State of Business/Residence
Atlanta, Georgia

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)

While a southbound truck applied brakes in a heavy rain to avoid an unidentified vehicle taking a sudden lane change, it jackknifed and struck a Cadillac. The Cadillac veered to the right and struck an Oldsmobile parked on the shoulder of the road. The truck then veered to the left, crossed the grassy median and struck and overrode a Plymouth stationwagon. Interstate 285 is a 6-lane divided highway.

Probable 1. Loss of directional stability of truck due to jackknife.
Cause: 2. Lost steering capability by unrestrained truck driver.

Other Factors: 1. Slippery road surface due to sudden heavy downpour of rain.

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of Plymouth 1 Truckdriver
1 Passenger in Plymouth 3 Passengers in Plymouth

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing impact forces
2. 
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $46,500
Other Property: 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-212-79

Agency: Atlanta Field Office

Location: City Lumberton  State North Carolina  Date: 08/07/79  Weather: Clear - dry

Road: Godwin Avenue  Intersecting Street: 24th Street

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1972 Chevrolet Monte Carlo 2-door hardtop  Harry Lee Callihan  Bladenboro, North Carolina
2. 1978 GMC  Truck with single axle woodchipper  Asplundh Tree Expert Company  Charlotte, North Carolina
3.  
4.  

Accident

Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
Traveling at an estimated speed of 90 mph, a Chevrolet was on route to a hospital with an expectant mother when it failed to negotiate a left curve, went into a skid, left the road and skidded into a parked, unoccupied Asplundh Tree Expert Company truck. The driver of the Chevrolet and 5 of the 7 passengers, including the expectant mother, were killed in the crash. Four of the 8 occupants were children.

Probable Cause:
1. Loss of directional control due to excessive speed.

Cause:
2. Tread, resulting in reduced coefficient of friction between tires and road and increased probability of skidding.

Other Factors:
1. None.

2. 

3. 

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver of Chevrolet 1. 
5. Passengers in Chevrolet 2. Passengers in Chevrolet

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Impact with interior features and other structural elements
2. Failure to wear occupant restraints
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $3,500
Other Property: 0
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Agency: Atlanta Field Office</th>
<th>Docket Number: HY-217-79</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Highway Accident Number: ATL-79-5-0028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Orlando</td>
<td>State Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road: Orange County Road 440</td>
<td>Intersecting Street County Road 419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicular:</td>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accident Description:**
A group of teenagers (ages 15-19) had gathered on the road after witnessing a drag race between two cars driven by members of the group. Followed by a Datsun, a Chevrolet approached the group, which was milling about on the roadway. Not seeing the pedestrians in the dark until it was too late to avoid them, the Chevrolet plunged into the group while braking. The Datsun struck the Chevrolet in the rear.

**Probable Cause:**
1. Occupancy of the road by pedestrians after observing a planned drag race.
2. Lack of any ambient light to alert oncoming traffic to the presence of the pedestrians.
3. Muffled approach of Chevrolet and Datsun due to engine noises from parked cars.

**Other Factors:**
1. None.
2. 
3. 

**Fatalities:**
| Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) |
| Pedestrians |
| 6 |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

**Injuries:**
| Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) |
| Driver of Datsun |
| 1 |
| Pedestrians |
| 2 |
| 

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**
1. Impact with automobile
2. 
3. 

**Property Losses:**
| Vehicles: $600 |
| Other Property: 0 |
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594
Docket Number: HY-71-78
Highway Accident Number: IAD-77-F-0002

Report
Agency: Dulles Field Office
Location:
City: Vincentown
State: New Jersey
Local time: 11:55
Date: 07/06/77
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Daylight
Road: U.S. Route 206
Intersecting Street: County Road Route 616

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1968 International Diesel 210 Flatbed truck Perla Block Corp.
2. 1977 Buick Regal 2-door coupe Margaret S. Herron
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________

City & State of Business/Residence
Mooresville, New Jersey
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Accident
Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and post-crash factors)
A truck carrying building blocks was traveling south on U.S. Route 206 when it struck a westbound Buick in the intersection of County Road Route 616. Pushed into a utility pole, the Buick came to rest near the truck, about 200 feet SSW of the point of impact. Fire ensued.

Probable Cause
1. Failure of the Buick driver to perceive and yield the right-of-way at a stop-controlled intersection.

Other Factors
1. Truck speed in excess of posted 50 mph.
2. Automobile driver's unfamiliarity with the route.
3. Ambient noise conditions of passengers in the automobile.
4. Lack of guide signs on County Road Route 616 to inform motorists of U.S. Route 206.

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of Buick
5 Passengers in Buick
1 Driver of truck

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Contact with vehicle interior objects.
2. Ejection.
3. Fire.

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $20,000
Other Property: $5,600
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-69-78

Location:
City: Chantilly  
State: Virginia
Road: U.S. Route 50  
Intersecting Street: U.S. Route 28

Local time: 14:19  
Date: 08/21/77  
Weather: Clear - dry  
Light condition: Daylight

Vehicle: Year  
Make  
Model  
Type  
Operator  
City & State of Business/Residence
1. 1964  Dodge  Coronet  2-door sedan  Carolyn S. Ryan  Ashburn, Virginia
2. 1972  International  Scout  Dump truck  Arthur W. Kitchen  Manassas, Virginia
3. 1972  GMC  TV-7500  Flat truck  Glen Maxwell Sullenberger  Lorton, Virginia

Description: (Type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and pos-crash factors)
A dump truck loaded with gravel was traveling east on U.S. Route 50. It entered the intersection of U.S. Route 28 on a red light and broadsided a Dodge Coronet northbound on U.S. Route 28. The truck pushed the Dodge through the intersection and into a westbound truck waiting to make a left turn. Fire ensued.

Probable Cause:
1. Failure of the dump truck driver to stop for a red traffic signal.
2. 
3. 

Other Factors:
1. A variable "green" phase for Route 50 traffic which allowed minimum time "greens" and cycles.
2. Lack of a second or all "red" clearance interval.
3. Driver inexperience in operating a dump truck.

Fatalities:  
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)  
1  Driver of Dodge  
3  Passengers in Dodge  

Injuries:  
1  Driver of International dump truck  

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Contact with interior objects.
2. Fire.
3. Impact forces.

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $40,000
Other Property: $900
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-68-77
Highway Accident Number: TAD-77-F-1004

Reporting Agency: Dulles Field Office

Location:
- City: Alexandria
- State: Virginia
- Date: 08/11/77
- Time: 1300
- Weather: Clear - dry
- Light condition: Daylight
- Road: Interstate 495
- Intersecting Street: Exit 38

Vehicle:
1. 1976 Ford Custom Van
2. 1975 Ford Model F-350 1500 truck
3. 
4. 

Operator:
1. Comet T&L Leasing Corp.
2. Commercial Wiring Cloth Corp.
3. 

Accident Description:
A 1974 Ford Van was traveling south in the median lane of Interstate 495, a six-lane divided highway, when the drive shaft broke and fell out of the truck drive train. Part of the drive shaft became airborne, striking and penetrating the windshield of a northbound 1975 Ford truck. The drive shaft fatally injured the passenger in the right front seat.

Probable Cause:
1. Failure of the drive shaft.
2. Inadequate preventive maintenance to detect potential component failures.
3. 

Other Factors:
1. None.
2. 
3. 

Fatalities:
- Number: 1
- (driver, passenger, pedestrian): Passenger in 1975 Ford
- Injuries: 0
- Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
- Injuries: 
- Property Losses:
- Vehicles: $2,500
- Other Property: 0

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Impalement by drive shaft
2. 
3. 
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Washington, D.C. 20594

| Reporting Agency: Dallas Field Office | Docket Number: HY-77-78 |
| Location: | Highway Accident Number: TAD-78-7-1001 |
| City | State | Date | Weather | Light condition |
| Martin | Ohio | 01/06/78 | Cloudy - dry | Daylight |
| Ottawa County Route 46 | Intersecting Street | None | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>General Electric</td>
<td>Diesel - electric</td>
<td>Freight</td>
<td>Consolidated Rail Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Ford</td>
<td>17F</td>
<td>Locomotive</td>
<td>Privately owned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Ford, traveling at an estimated 20 mph, approached the grade crossing, slowed and then drove into the path of the train, traveling at the 30 mph track speed limit. Six of the Ford's seven occupants were ejected. All of the occupants were killed. The driver of the Ford, a local resident, had an unobstructed view of the crossing as it approached for 200 feet. The crossing is protected by advance warning signs and crossbucks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probable Cause of Casualty:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Struck by train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ejection from vehicle - traumatic impact injuries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Driver of Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Passengers in Ford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Losses:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles: $2,500 (train &amp; auto)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Property: 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Reporting Agency:** Kansas City Field Office  
**Docket Number:** KY-72-78

**Location:**  
City: Kansas City  
State: Missouri  
Local time: 1615  
Date: 02/13/77  
Weather: Clear - dry  
Light condition: Daylight

**Road:** Interstate 70  
**Intersecting Street:** Benton Boulevard

**Vehicle:**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Business/Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Freightliner</td>
<td>tractor-semitrailer</td>
<td>Yellow Freight System</td>
<td>Kansas City, Missouri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accident Description:** (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)

A westbound tractor-semitrailer was traveling at an estimated 55 mph along Interstate 70 on a section of highway with a descending grade of 1.9 percent. As the truck entered a 90' R1 left-hand curve, it left skid marks first, on the road, and then, on the right shoulder. The track then slipped onto its right side on top of a guardrail and slid along the rail in a collision with a bridge column. The posted speed limit was 55 mph.

**Probable Cause:** 1. Postced speed limit excessive for safe passage through curve.

**Other Factors:** 1. None.

**Fatalities:**  
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)

**Injuries:**  
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**  
1. Crushing impact forces

**Property Losses:**  
Vehicles: $35,000

**Other Property:** $18,000 (bridge & cargo)
### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

**Agency:** Kansas City Field Office  
**Pocket Number:** NY-179-79  
**Highway Accident Number:** HRC-78-F-0002

**Location:**  
City: Kansas  
State: Kansas  
Local time: 1622  
Date: 05/15/78  
Weather: Clear - dry  
Light condition: Daylight  
Road: County Road K-96  
Intersecting Street: Milepost 326.5  
City & State of Business/Residence: Rusk, Texas  
City & State of Business/Residence: Golden City, Missouri

### Vehicle Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Road Commander II</td>
<td>COE Tractor-</td>
<td>Southern Freightways, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Great Dane</td>
<td></td>
<td>semi-trailer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Chevrolet</td>
<td>Monte Carlo</td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Ona M. Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Buick</td>
<td>Electra</td>
<td>4-door hardtop</td>
<td>Lawrence J. Lowe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Accident Description:
This accident occurred in a work zone. The Chevrolet and Buick were stopped in response to a flagman at a road repair site when a truck, failing to stop, struck and overrode the Buick. Both struck the Chevrolet; all three vehicles went off the road. Fire consumed all three vehicles and the Buick occupants when the Buick tank ruptured and fire ensued. All others escaped with minor injuries.

### Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing forces.  
2. Fire.  
3. 

### Fatalities:
- Number: 1  
  Driver of Buick  
- Number: 3  
  Passengers in Buick

### Injuries:
- Number: 1  
  Truckdriver  
- Number: 1  
  Driver of Chevrolet  
- Number: 4  
  Passengers in Chevrolet

### Property Losses:
- Vehicles: $30,000  
- Other Property: $0
**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**  
Washington, D.C. 20594

**Reporting Agency:** Kansas City Field Office  
**Docket Number:** HY-120-79

**Location:**  
City: Lutesville  
State: Missouri  
Date: 06/14/78  
Time: 04:25  
Weather: Clear  
Light condition: Darkness

**Road:** None - Private property  
**Intersecting Street:** None  
**Operator:** Commercial Transport, Inc.

**Vehicle:**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Freightliner</td>
<td>Truck tractor</td>
<td>Commercial Transport, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>Cargo tank</td>
<td>tank semitrailer</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau, Missouri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accident Description:**  
During an off-loading operation of a gasoline tank truck at a fuel facility, an accumulation of gasoline vapor flowed downgrade across a street into the crawl space of a house. The vapors were ignited by the pilot light of a hot water heater. The resultant explosion and fire followed back to and ignited the cargo tank where a second explosion occurred. Four occupants were blown from the house; a fifth was crushed beneath the collapsed roof.

**Probable Cause:**  
1. Ignition of gasoline vapors.
2. 
3. 

**Other Factors:**  
2. Breach in the truck delivery hose.
3. Absence of any check valve in facility plumbing.

**Fatalities:**  
- 1 House occupant
- 4 House occupants

**Injuries:**  
- 1 Truckdriver
- 1

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**  
1. Collapse of house roof (fatality)
2. Ejection from house account force of explosion
3. Other Property: $100,000

**Property Losses:**  
Vehicles: $20,000
Reporting Agency: Kansas City Field Office
Docket Number: NY-129-79

Location:
City: Camden
State: Arkansas
Road: State Route 4
Intersecting Street: State Route 57

Vehicle: Year  Make  Model  Type  Operator  City & State of Business/Residence
1. 1977  GMC
2. 1973  Chevrolet  El Camino  Pickup  Walter Brothers Lumber, Inc.  Camden, Arkansas
3. 1978  Ford
4. 1974  Dodge

Accident
Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
As it approached a left-hand curve and the crest of a hill, an eastbound tractor-semitrailer was passing another eastbound truck on State Route 4, a two-lane, two-way highway. A westbound pickup crested the hill and saw the oncoming tractor-semitrailer. The passing tractor-semitrailer swerved left to the shoulder of the road; the pickup swerved right. The vehicles collided headon.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing.
2. Failure to wear available seatbelts.
3.  

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)

Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)

Probable Cause of Casualty: Property Losses:
1. Crushing.  Vehicles: $12,000
2. Failure to wear available seatbelts.
3.  Other Property: 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: NY-76-78
Highway Accident Number: NRC-79-F-1002

Location:
City: Kansas City
State: Kansas
Local time: 1711
Date: 08/09/77
Weather: Cloudy 
Light condition: Daylight

Road: Interstate 70
Intersecting Street: Kansas State Route 32
City & State of Business/Residence: Kansas City, Missouri

Vehicle: Year
1. 1972 Ford Pinto
2. 1977 Midas Mini
3. 1970 Mercedes Benz
4. 1969 Chevrolet

Make: Pinto
Model: 2-door sedan
Operator: David E. Yumphans
City & State of Business/Residence: Leavenworth, Kansas

Make: Midas
Model: Mini
Operator: Nina Katherine Herndon
City & State of Business/Residence: Cedartown, Georgia

Make: Mercedes Benz
Model: 4-door sedan
Operator: John E. McDonald
City & State of Business/Residence: Springfield, Michigan

Make: Chevrolet
Model: Stepvan
Operator: Fritz Loe
City & State of Business/Residence: Kansas City, Missouri

Accident Description: A westbound Pinto traveling at about 55 mph, overtaking slower moving traffic, swerved to the westbound curb lane to avoid a collision. To avoid another potential collision in the curb lane, the Pinto swerved sharply to the left and braked. Out of control, the Pinto crossed the westbound lanes and skidded across the grassy median. It then simultaneously vaulted and rolled about 17 feet into a hedgerow collision with an eastbound motor home. Subsequently, an eastbound Mercedes Benz and a Chevrolet were involved in minor collisions with the motor home.

Probable Cause:
1. Failure of Ford Pinto driver to perceive and allow for preceding traffic.
2. Excessive speed for road and traffic conditions.
3. 

Other Factors:
1. Improper use of curb lane by unidentified vehicle on curve to exit ramp.
2. Vertical geometry of median, resulting in vehicle vault and roll.
3. 

Fatalities:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver of Ford Pinto
Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver of motor home
3. Passengers in motor home

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Impact forces
2. Collapse of vehicle structure
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $5,500
Other Property: 0
**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**  
Washington, D.C. 20594

**Reporting Agency:** Kansas City Field Office  
**Docket Number:** MY-17679

**Location:**  
- City: Winfield  
- State: Kansas  
- Date: 10/18/78

**Vehicle Information:**  
1. **Year:** 1976  
   **Make:** Ford  
   **Model:** LT9000  
   **Type:** Tractor  
   **Operator:** Lamm's Trucks
2. **Year:** N/A  
   **Make:** N/A  
   **Model:** 30-foot-box semi-trailer  
   **Operator:** Lamm's Trucks
3. **Year:** 1967  
   **Make:** Volkswagen  
   **Operator:** Melvin E. Schuyler

**Accident Description:**  
When a truck westbound on County Road 8 did not stop as required at the intersection with U.S. Route 77, it drove into the path of a Volkswagen southbound on U.S. Route 77. Though advance stop-warning and stop signs were posted on County Road 8, the stop sign installation did not conform with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Alleged brake failure could not be proved, as truck was unavailable for postcrash inspection by NTSB.

**Probable Cause:**  
1. Failure of truck to stop and yield right-of-way to Volkswagen in obedience to posted stop sign.

**Other Factors:**  
1. Improper installation of stop sign.

**Fatalities:**  
- **Number:** 1  
  **Driver of Volkswagen**

**Injuries:**  
- **Number:** 1  
  **Truckdriver**

**Property Losses:**  
- **Vehicles:** $1,000  
- **Other Property:** 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Reporting Agency: Kansas City Field Office
Docket Number: NY-150-79
Highway Accident Number: MRC-79-P-0019

Location:
City: Victoria
State: Texas
Local time: 0040
Date: 03/31/79
Weather: Cloudy - damp
Light condition: Darkness

Road: U.S. Route 175
Intersecting Street: Milepost 10
City & State of Business/Residence: Victoria, Texas

Vehicle: Year 1977
Make Ford
Model LTD
Type 2-door sedan
Operator Kenneth R. Sallone

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
This was a single vehicle accident. The Ford was traveling at an estimated 95 mph on a straight, level section of the four-lane divided highway. Entering a concrete bridge span, the Ford suddenly swerved to the right, struck the bridge rail, became airborne, vaulted the bridge rail and landed on its roof. There is no explanation why the Ford driver made the right turn maneuver. No autopsies were conducted. Since 1975, the driver had 10 speeding convictions. He had been issued a citation for speeding just 6 hours before the accident.

Probable Cause:
1. Failure of driver to maintain directional control of car.

Factor 1. Excessive speed.
3.

Other:
Factors: 1. Defeated containment ability of bridge rail.
2. Driver predilection to speed.
3.

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver
5. Passengers

Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. 0

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing forces.
2.
3.

Property Losses:
Vehicles: Unknown
Other Property: Unknown
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: MY-194-79
Highway Accident Number: MCC-79-7-R023

Reporting Agency: Kansas City Field Office.
Location:
City: Dickinson
State: North Dakota
Road: FAS Road No. 4510
Intersecting Street: None

Vehicle:
Year: 1979
Make: Chevrolet
Model: Chevette
Type: Sedan
Operator: Christopher Booke

Year: 1969
Make: International
Model: 1000D
Type: Pickup
Operator: Robert F. Vangen


Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
While traveling at an estimated 60-75 mph, a westbound Chevrolet struck a loose chunk of asphalt road surface, lost control, crossed the centerline of the two-lane highway and struck an eastbound pickup headon. The pickup tried to avoid the Chevrolet by driving to the right but did not have sufficient time to avoid the collision. Formerly designated U.S. Route No. 10, the 29-year-old road now is Federal Aid Secondary Road No. 4510. Loose pieces of surface material lying in their original sites were easily dislodged. The Chevrolet driver's blood alcohol content was 0.23 percent when tested.

Probable Cause:
1. Failure of Chevrolet driver to maintain vehicle control due to the influence of alcohol.
2. Improper maintenance of road surface.

Other Factors:
1. Excessive Chevrolet speed for road conditions.
2. Overloading Chevette with 6 occupants when designed for four.

Fatalities:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of Chevrolet
1 Driver of pickup
4 Passenger of Chevrolet

Injuries:
Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Passenger in Chevrolet

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Impact force.
2. Failure of occupants to wear available occupant restraints.
3. Property Losses:
Vehicles: $5,000
Other Property: 0
REPORTING
Agency: Kansas City Field Office

Location:
City: Randlett
State: Oklahoma
Road: U.S. Route 277
Intersecting Street: U.S. Route 70

Local time: 1530
Date: 07/11/79
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Daylight

VEHICLE:
Year: 1979
Make: Kenworth
Model: 6900A
Type: Tractor-
Operator: Joe Brown Trucking Company

Intersecting Street: U.S. Route 70
City & State of Business/Residence: Davis, Oklahoma

Vehicle: 1978 Freuhauf Dump semitrailer
Operator: Joe Brown Trucking Company

Vehicle: 1977 Ford LTD 4-door sedan
Operator: Earl E. Grubbs

Vehicle: 2.
Operator: Davis, Oklahoma

City & State of Business/Residence: Davis, Oklahoma

ACCIDENT
Description: A southbound Ford was stopped on the shoulder of the road while one of the passengers got out to retrieve a hat and a hub cap from the side of the road. As the driver of a southbound truck was trying to ground a wire to his CB radio, the truck drifted onto the shoulder of the road at about 57-62 mph and struck the stopped Ford. The truck overrode the rear of the Ford. All eight occupants of the Ford were ejected.

PROBABLE CAUSE
1. Truckdriver inattention to driving.

CAUSE:
2.
3.

OTHER FACTORS:
1. None.
2.
3.

FATALITIES:
Number: 1 (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
Driver of Ford

Number: 1 (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
Truckdriver

Number: 1 (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
Passengers in Ford

Provable force from truck override and ejection.

INJURIES:
Number: 1 (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
Truckdriver

Number: 1 (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
Passenger in Ford

OTHER PROPERTY:
Vehicles: $12,000
Other Property: $0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Washington, D.C. 20594

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Agency: Kansas City Field Office</th>
<th>Local time: 0030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location: Brodhead, Kentucky</td>
<td>Date: 07/12/79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road: U.S. Route 150</td>
<td>Weather: Cloudy - dry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Light condition: Dark/lighted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle: Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>City &amp; State of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 1974</td>
<td>Pontiac</td>
<td>Grand Prix</td>
<td>2-door sedan</td>
<td>Kenneth H. Rose</td>
<td>Brodhead, Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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</table>

**Accident Description:** (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
Traveling at an estimated 67 mph, the Pontiac failed to negotiate a left curve with a calculated critical speed of 70 mph. The car ran off the road, down a 12-foot embankment, and overturned, pinning the driver behind the steering wheel and ejecting the 4 passengers. The driver had a 0.24 percent blood alcohol test reading.

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**
1. Impact injuries.
2. Failure of passengers to wear available restraints.
3. 

**Probable Cause of Casuality:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fatality</th>
<th>Number (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Driver of Pontiac</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Passengers in Pontiac</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Losses:</th>
<th>Number (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles: $2,500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Agency: Kansas City Field Office
Docket Number: NY-222-79

Location: Centerville State Texas
Local time: 0630 Date: 07/27/79 Weather: Rain
Lanai Condition: Dawn

Road: State Route 7
Intersecting Street: None

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1975 Transtar
2. 1978 Dodge Maxivan Van
3. 1977 Dodge Maxivan Van
4. 1977 Pontiac Chevelle 2-door sedan

City & State of Business/Residence
Crannis, Arkansas
Cleveland, Texas
Splendora, Texas
Natchez, Mississippi

Accident
Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
The two vans and the Pontiac were stopped at the Beaver Dam Creek bridge due to high water across the road.
As the truck came over the crest of a hill and began descending toward Beaver Dam Creek, the truckdriver saw
the stopped vehicles. He braked but could not stop, striking the cars and knocking the 1977 Dodge van into the
creek.

Probable Cause: 1. Inability of truck to stop due to faulty brakes and smooth tires.
2. Lack of preventive maintenance program.
3. Heavy rain, resulting in reduced visibility and decreased perception time.

Other
Factors: 1. Absence of bridge rail.
2. 
3. 

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of 1977 Dodge Van
4 Passengers in 1977 Dodge Van

Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
6 Passengers in 1977 Dodge Van
4 Passengers in Pontiac

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Drowning (fatalities)
2. Impact with vehicle interior (injuries)
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $15,000
Other Property: 0
NA:TIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Reporting Agency: Kansas City Field Office
Docket Number: HY-210-79

Highway Accident Number: MKC-79-F-027

Location:
- City: Hinckley
- State: Illinois
- Local time: 0740
- Date: 07/30/79
- Weather: Raining - wet
- Light condition: Daylight - overcast
- Road: U.S. Route 30
- Intersecting Street: None

Vehicle:

Accident Description:
An eastbound automobile stalled out during a heavy rain and came to a stop partially on the road shoulder, its left wheels on the road. An eastbound van approached the stalled auto, the van swerved to its left and collided headon with a westbound truck, demolishing the customized van. U.S. Route 30 is a 2-lane, 22-foot-wide highway.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing impact with van interior
2. 
3. 

Probable 1. Loss of control of vehicle due to driver overreaction.
Cause: 2. Heavy rain.
3. 

Other Factors:
1. Driver inexperience.
2. Rutted condition of highway.
3. 

Fatalities:
- Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) 1: Driver of Ford van
- Injuries: 7: Passengers in Ford van

Probable Cause of Casualty:
- Property Losses: Vehicles: $14,000
- Other Property: $0
### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

**Reporting Agency:** Oakland Field Office  
**Location:** San Jose, California  
**Local Time:** 0556  
**Date:** 06/09/77  
**Weather:** Clear - dry  
**Light Condition:** Daylight  
**Road:** Interstate 280  
**Intersecting Street:** None  
**Vehicle:** Year: 1974  
**Make:** Twin Coach  
**Model:**  
**Type:** 25-passenger bus  
**Operator:** Santa Clara County Transit System  
**City & State of Business/Residence:** Santa Clara County, California

### Description
A Twin Coach bus, occupied only by its driver, was southbound on Interstate 280 when passing motorists alerted the driver to smoke and fire at the rear of the vehicle. The driver stopped on the side of the road and safely exited the bus which was totally destroyed by fire. The entire bus fleet has experienced trouble with excessive heat in the engine compartment.

### Probable Cause of Casualty
1. Inadequate maintenance program, resulting in deteriorated fan belt idler pulley.
2.  
3.  

### Property Losses
- **Vehicles:** $40,000
- **Other Property:** $0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-79-78

Highway Accident Number: OAK-78-1-0001

Reporting Agency: Oakland Field Office

Location:
City: Spanish Fork
State: Utah
Local time: 0500
Date: 02/05/78
Weather: Cloudy - drv
Light condition: Darkness

Road: Utah State Route 6
Intersecting Street: None

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator City & State of Business/Residence
1. 1977 Peterbilt 352 SB6 Tractor- Mira Meats Houston, Texas
2. 1976 Utility semitrailer
3. 
4. 

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
The tractor-semitrailer was westbound on Utah State Route 6, a two-lane blacktop roadway with an approximate 5 percent downgrade and many sharp curves. Traveling at an estimated speed of 80 mph, the truck failed to negotiate a righthand curve, tipped onto its left side and slid off the embankment. A warning sign recommended a maximum speed of 40 mph through the curve.

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Failure to negotiate a curve due to excessive speed.
2. 
3. 

Other Factors:
1. Possible driver fatigue.
2. Driver physical disability. (Wooden right leg from knee down)
3. 

Fatalities: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1 Driver of tractor-semitrailer

Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
0

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $20,000
Other Property: $8,000 (carpet)
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: MY-109-78
Highway Accident Number: OK-78-7-H009

Reporting Agency: Oakland Field Office

Location:
City: Utah
State: California

Local time: 0440
Date: 09/17/78
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Darkness

Road: State Route 20
Intersecting Street: None

Vehicle:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>City &amp; State of Business/Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>CS10704</td>
<td>Pickup truck</td>
<td>Daniel Lee Turner</td>
<td>Santa Maria, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stationwag</td>
<td>Fausto Pena</td>
<td>Potter Valley, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accident Description: (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)
The pickup truck crossed the centerline and struck the stationwagon headon on a two-lane, two-way road. The driver of the Chevrolet stationwagon was taking his wife to a hospital for the delivery of her first child. The driver of the pickup had a 0.13 percent blood alcohol test reading. Both drivers and the expectant mother were killed.

Probable Cause:
1. Loss of vehicle control by the pickup truck driver who apparently fell asleep.
2. Driver intoxication.
3. 

Other Factors:
1. None.
2. 
3. 

Fatalities:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number:</th>
<th>(driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
<th>Injuries:</th>
<th>Number:</th>
<th>(driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Driver of Chevrolet pickup</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Driver of Chevrolet stationwagon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Passenger in Chevrolet stationwagon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Impact forces.
2. 
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: 5800
Other Property: 0
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Washington, D.C. 20594

Docket Number: HY-152-79
Highway Accident Number: OAK-79-Y-H007

Reporting Agency: Oakland Field Office

Location: San Mateo, California
City: San Mateo
State: California
Road: State Route 35
Intersecting Street: County Road

Local time: 1325
Date: 04/01/79
Weather: Clear - dry
Light condition: Daylight

Vehicle: Year Make Model Type Operator
1. 1964 Lincoln Continental 4-door sedan Cherie Lynn Brahnson Foster City, California
2. 
3. 
4. 

Accident Description: (Type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash, and postcrash factors)
A southbound Lincoln traveling at high speed failed to negotiate a left curve, ran off the roadway, overturned to its right and struck a tree, roof first. The 16 year old female driver and 4 passengers died in the accident. An autopsy revealed blood alcohol level of 0.12 percent. This inexperienced driver was driving the car without her parents consent.

Probable Cause: 1. Excessive speed by inexperienced, intoxicated driver.

Cause: 2. 
3. 

Other Factors: 1. None.
2. 
3. 

Fatality: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian) Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)
1. Driver of Lincoln 
4. Passengers in Lincoln 
2. 
3. 

Probable Cause of Casualty:
1. Crushing impact forces.
2. 
3. 

Property Losses:
Vehicles: $2,500
Other Property: 0
# NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

**Reporting Agency:** Oakland Field Office  
**Docket Number:** HY-172-79

**Location:**

- **City:** Young  
- **State:** Arizona  
- **Road:** State Route 288  
- **Intersecting Street:** Milepost 282  
- **Date:** 05/02/79  
- **Time:** 0650  
- **Weather:** Clear - dry  
- **Light Condition:** Daylight  

**Vehicle:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Operator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Ford</td>
<td>F-250</td>
<td>Pickup truck</td>
<td>Reidhead Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heber, Arizona</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accident Description:** (type of accident and presence or absence of significant precrash, crash and postcrash factors)

The pickup truck brakes failed as the truck was descending a long, steep grade. The pickup truck passed two truck-escape routes, but the driver elected not to use either. When the driver tried to downshift, he could not get past neutral, and the free-wheeling truck began to accelerate. On an "S" curve, the driver drove off the road into the soft ground of the shoulder to try to slow the runaway vehicle. However, the truck rotated, rolled over and struck a tree.

**Probable Cause:**

1. Loss of control due to brake failure.
2. Inadequate preventive maintenance program.
3. 

**Factors:**

1. Driver's decision to drive an unsafe vehicle, knowing that the brakes were not functioning properly.
2. Driver's judgment in electing to downshift at too high a speed and not getting beyond neutral.
3. Driver's decision not to pull off the road into either of two truck-escape routes.

**Fatalities:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
<th>Injuries: Number: (driver, passenger, pedestrian)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Passenger in pickup truck</td>
<td>1 Driver of pickup truck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Probable Cause of Casualty:**

1. Blunt impact with interior of vehicle.
2. 
3. 

**Property Losses:**

- **Vehicles:** $7,000
- **Other Property:** $0