

Driver injured whilst collecting Loaded Trailer

What happened?

Driver (IP) was collecting a trailer from the trailer park. Another loaded trailer was parked very close next to it. As he attempted to go down the side of the trailer, he has brushed past the roof support which has sprung out trapping his elbow against the trailer parked next to his trailer. IP managed to free himself from being trapped between the roof support and trailer and walked back to the front of the trailer. He then stood for some time recovering and holding his elbow. After, he called his manager to report the incident and then went to the driver reception where he received treatment.

IP was taken to the local hospital where his elbow was x-rayed showing no broken bones or fractures but soft tissue damage to his right elbow. IP was off work for 5 days.



Findings:

- Trailer side post (Roof support) had not been correctly replaced
- Trailers parked too close together

Recommendations:

- In such situations drivers should assess the situation
- Access the trailer park brake via safest route possible and release the trailer park brake
- Pull the trailer forward to allow suitable and safe working area
- After removing side posts (roof supports), please make sure they are correctly and securely replaced.