

Truck and Trailer Roll Away

What Happened:

Whilst collecting a loaded trailer from the trailer park, the driver realises the **Trailer Park Brake** is still **ON**.

Driver has jumped out of cab and **not applied** unit **Handbrake**.

On releasing the Trailer Park Brake the Truck and Trailer have started to move.

Driver has run back to his cab, round the front of the unit, to apply handbrake.

There were no injuries.



Findings:

- The vehicle handbrake automatically applies when engine is switched off.
- Vehicle was fitted with audible alarm which operates if handbrake is off and door is opened.
- Driver has not acted on the audible handbrake alarm.

Recommendations: Drivers and hauliers should:

- When purchasing new tractor units, it is recommended to specify a unique sounding and suitably loud handbrake alarm
- Remind all drivers that when any audible alarm is sounding they must check the cause before exiting the cab
- Brief drivers on the incident and importance of taking 2 minutes to review situation before reacting and breaking their routine
- On releasing the Trailer Park Brake '**PAUSE**' check for any unexpected movement, if movement observed RE-APPLY the Trailer Park Brake.