

Truck and Trailer Roll Away

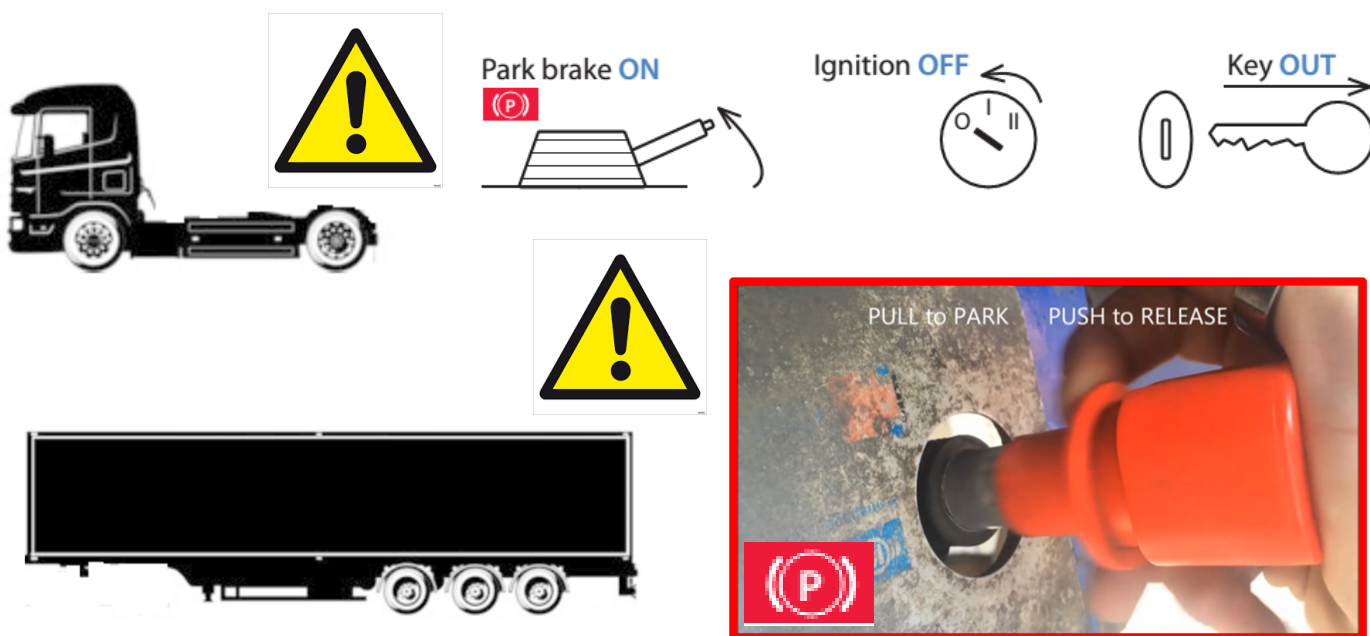
What Happened:

Whilst collecting a loaded trailer from a customers trailer park, the tractor and truck combination rolled forwards and came to a stop by hitting the side of another waiting truck causing damage to the door.

Luckily there were no injuries..... This time!

Findings:

- The driver had **not** checked the trailer park brake had been applied as part of his pre-coupling checks.
- The driver had **forgotten** to apply his truck handbrake
- The truck and trailer combination rolled forwards as the driver was connecting his lines and winding up the trailer legs.



Recommendations:

- ✓ Before exiting the tractor unit, **the driver must always apply the tractor unit park brake** **(P)** switch of the engine and remove the ignition keys.
- ✓ **Tractor units should be fitted with audible alarms** to warn the driver that the tractor unit park brake has not been applied when exiting the cab. The alarm must operate regardless of ignition key state
- ✓ **Trailer park brakes** **(P)** **must be applied on all uncoupled trailers.**
Disconnecting the red air line does not automatically engage the trailer park brake!
The trailer park brake **must be activated separately by pulling on!**

Further guidance on safe coupling and uncoupling of vehicles is available at
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/workplacetransport/information/coupling.htm>