



## INDESPENSION TRAILER ROLLED AWAY

### OVERVIEW

An Indespension AD2000 trailer was being towed when it became unhitched and rolled away striking a parked car.

It was extremely lucky no one was hurt.

Checks to ensure that the trailer had been securely hitched to the towing vehicle were not undertaken thoroughly.

When the trailer was lost, the breakaway cable should have ensured the trailer handbrake operated and stopped the trailer.

This safety feature failed due to unidentified damage to the 'o-ring' connection on the trailer, which was deformed and gave way.

Discussions are underway with the manufacturer to identify a modification to strengthen this safety feature and ensure its operation.

Picture below: The highlighted component failed. This must be checked on every trailer before every use.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Every trailer must be inspected and checked to ensure the breakaway cable and connections are not damaged or defective.
- Line Managers will issue this Safety Alert to each driver, and shall undertake an initial check to establish if any damage or defect is visible.
- Any identified damage or defect must be reported, and the trailer must not be used until repaired:

**UKPN employees** - Report to **Transport** on **0800 328 6484**.

**Contractors** - Report via your own safety report system.

- Pre-use checks must include checking the condition of the breakaway cable and fixings.
- It is vital that drivers undertake thorough checks to ensure trailers are securely attached when towing.
- **Do not rely on others to undertake this fundamental check.**



It is the responsibility of line management to ensure all appropriate employees are issued with this document and to check their understanding of its content. This document will be subject to compliance audits within 14 days from the date of issue.