

Safety Alert

Event Number: 1FiCS: 18334 & 18845

Event Date: 27/09/16, 29/10/16

Classification: Near Misses

Trailers came off couplings

Description of Events:

- Ñ Incident 1: Driver was driving with a trailer mount fuel tanker over a bump in the road and the trailer came off the tow ball and dropped onto the safety chains.
- Ñ Incident 2: Driver was driving onto road from Foxton temporary yard and the trailer came off the tow ball and dropped onto the safety chains, damaging the coupling.

Incidents Causes:

- Ñ The trailer coupling was found to be worn beyond the manufacturers recommended tolerance level, and the anti-rattle adjustment was incorrectly set.
- Ñ The driver had been distracted while attaching the trailer and failed to check that it was properly secured before moving off.



Suggested Solution:

1. Check that the monthly trailer check has been completed.
2. Complete a visual pre use inspection checking the trailer and couplings.
3. When undertaking monthly trailer checks ensure the coupling is checked against the manufacturers tolerance for wear and anti-rattle is adjusted if needed.

For further information please contact: Tony Bain – QSE Assessor, TCEN – 06 353 3555

Date of release: 9/11/2016