

Fatal 6 - Articulated truck rollover on soft verge

WHAT HAPPENED

An articulated tipper truck, loaded with clay, rolled over when it veered off the road onto the soft verge. The vehicle ended up on its side in the hedge of a farmer's field. The driver is reported to have had a sneezing fit immediately prior to the incident. No other vehicle was involved and the driver was uninjured and passed the police checks (Breath test, etc.)

Investigation confirmed the following:

- The driver had been supporting the haulier, who have the clay contract, for the previous 8 days, completing 38 deliveries via this route
- The driver was wearing his seatbelt, which helped avoid injury
- Tacho suggests the driver was travelling at 35mph, well within the 50mph limit when the accident occurred
- The driver had 11.5Hrs continuous rest prior
- The driver has held his Class 1 HGV license for 13Yrs with no notable accident history
- Weather was dry, visibility good, the road was wet
- Mobile phone checks confirm not in use while driving
- The driver suffers from hay fever and takes (non drowsy) medication
- This is the 3rd almost identical incident in the last 6 years which has involved our clay fleet, plus many other none company related incidents on this route



LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

- Consider whether alternative routes are available that avoid known local hazard spots.
- Confirm Driver inductions make specific reference to known hazards, such as soft verges in this case.
- Liaise with local councils as appropriate to see if improvements can be made.
- Remind drivers of the need to drive to the road and weather conditions and wear their seatbelt...This helped avoid serious injuries in this incident.

LOCATION:	ON-HIGHWAY	ALERT STATUS:	High Potential
ACTIVITY:	TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS / DELIVERY	DATE ISSUED:	18/08/2022 12:44:35
SUB ACTIVITY:	ON-HIGHWAY	INCIDENT No:	03625