



Avoiding Brake Failure

Accidents due to brake failure are tragic and often fatal. They occur due to a variety of reasons. There are two basic categories of brake failure:

- *Static* - Static failures occur when a vehicle is parked. An example of static failure is a parking brake not properly set, causing a vehicle to roll out of control.
- *Dynamic* – Dynamic failures occur when vehicle operators lose control of mobile equipment.

Suggestions to Avoid Brake Failure

- Maintain mobile equipment brake systems in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's specifications.
- Do not exceed original equipment manufacturer's load limits.
- Conduct regularly scheduled brake system examinations.
- Test mobile equipment brake systems before the equipment is placed into service to insure that the brakes are operational and capable of stopping the equipment.
- Do not leave mobile equipment unattended without placing the controls in the park position and engaging the parking brake.
- Chock or turn into a bank the wheels of mobile equipment when parked on a grade.
- Maintain roadways to insure safe travel.
- Operate mobile equipment at speeds compatible with road and weather conditions.
- Post signs advising equipment operators of road hazards and safe speeds.
- Operate equipment in lower gears to correspond with the particular grade.
- Provide and wear seat belts whenever mobile equipment is being operated.



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