

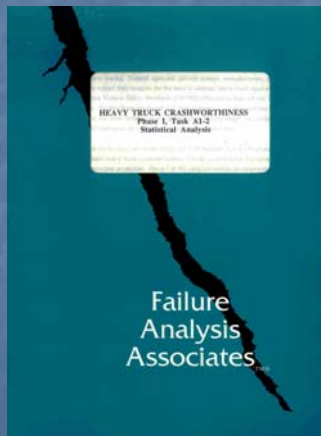
# Heavy Truck Accidents in the U.S.

## Data Sources

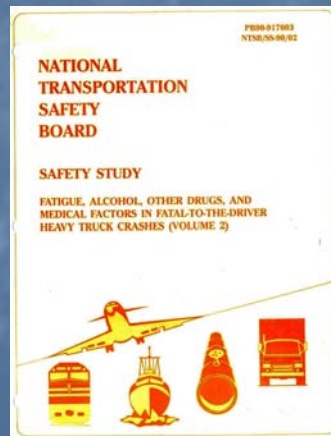
FARS	Fatality Analysis Reporting System	SAE Study	1975>1989
Safety Study	NTSB/SS-90/02	NTSB Study	1987>1988
TIFA	Trucks involved in Fatal Accidents	UMTRI/FMCSA	1991>1994
FARS&GES	FARS & General Estimates System	NHTSA	2005

SAE  
NHTSA  
UMTRI  
FMCSA  
NTSB

formally > Society of Automotive Engineers  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
National Transportation Safety Board



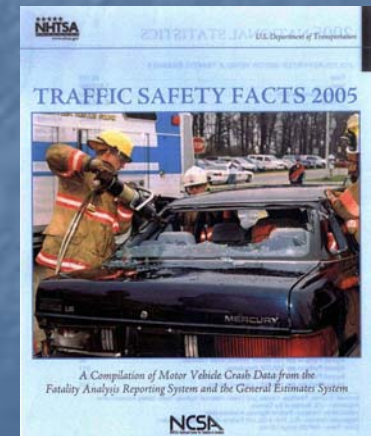
SAE



NTSB



UMTRI



NHTSA

# Relationship between Fatalities and Class of Heavy Truck

U. S. NHTSA Defined GVW Classes	GVWR Kg (x1000 lbs)	% total U.S. Annual Sales of Vehicles in these Weight Ranges (2000-2002 avg)	% of all Truck Occupant Fatalities in Crashes (1984 FARS)*
3	4536 to 6350 (10-14)	20.8%	12.2%
4	6350 to 7257 (14-16)	9.6%	
5	7257 to 8845 (16-19.5)	5.4%	
6	8845 to 11793 (19.5-26)	9.7%	
7	11793 to 14968 (26-33)	19.8%	
8	Greater than 14968 (>33) Tractors	20.8%	<b>83.0%</b>
	Trucks	13.9%	4.8%

\* Updated statistics will be obtained as soon as possible but approximate proportions shown are not expected to vary greatly

# SAE – Crashworthiness Task Force

- Fatal Accident Recording System (FARS) 1975-1989 Database
- FARS data is based on information on every fatal accident within the defined years
- FARS is excellent for overall statistical information, not very useful for detailed information
- Cluster analysis performed to identify major accident modes

# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Accident Cluster Distribution FARS Data 1975-1989

		Tractor Fatal Vehicle		
Rank	Cluster No.	Number	Percent	Event
1	6/10	2649	28	Rollover
2	4/8	1895	20	Struck fixed object, no rollover
3	12/13	1847	20	Struck or striking, no rollover
4	3/7	1741	18	Struck fixed object, rollover
5	11	685	7	Strike Vehicle, rollover
6	15	326	3	Struck non-fixed object
7	14	175	2	Struck or striking
8	5/9	142	2	Rollover, struck fixed object

- Three major accident modes identified
  - Rollover
  - Collision with fixed objects
  - Collision with vehicles in transport



# Conclusions: Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes

- FARS 1975>1989 Database Conclusions
  - Accident clusters contain combinations of three major accident classifications
    - Rollover
    - Collision with motor vehicle
    - Collision with fixed object
  - Principal impact is frontal in nature for collisions
  - When rollover occurs, it frequently becomes the most harmful event
  - Cab style (COE vs. Conventional) did not alter statistical trends

# National Transportation Safety Board 1987-1988 Fatal-to-Truck Driver Accident Studies

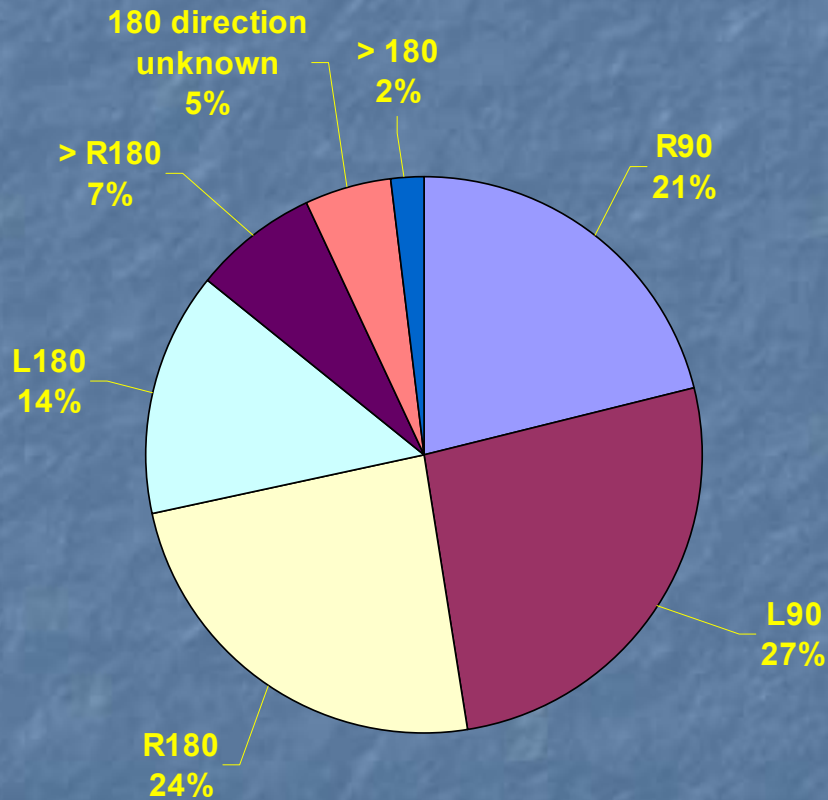
- FARS database good for statistics, poor detail information
- 1987-1988 NTSB study performed detailed heavy truck accident investigations
  - 182 fatal-to-driver accidents
  - 186 heavy trucks involved
  - 207 total fatalities
  - Every fatal accident in 8 US states over one year
  - NTSB data statistically comparable to FARS data base

# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Cluster Distribution of 1987-1988 NTSB Study Cases

Rank	Cluster No.	Event	FARS	NTSB
1	6/10	Strike vehicle, rollover	28%	19%
2	4/8	Struck fixed object, no rollover	20%	8%
3	12/13	Struck or striking, no rollover	20%	25%
4	3/7	Struck fixed object, rollover	18%	18%
5	11	Rollover	7%	12%
6	15	Struck non-fixed object	3%	4%
7	14	Struck or striking	2%	2%
8	5/9	Rollover, struck fixed object	2%	11%

- FARS data roughly matches NTSB data
  - Under-representation of cluster 5/9 and 11 attributed to coding issues associated with the FARS database
  - 182 accidents reduced to 68 accidents with full details and these accidents roughly approximate statistical characteristics of FARS

# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Direction and Degree of Roll



1987-1988 NTSB Case  
Studies



# Fatal-to-Truck Driver NTSB Accident Scenarios

- Six Major NTSB Detailed Accident Scenarios
  - Head-on collisions
  - Rear-end collisions with other heavy trucks
  - Collisions with fixed objects
  - 90° rollover without a subsequent collision
  - 90° rollover with a subsequent collision
  - 180° rollover

# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Most Harmful Event TIFA Data 1991 > 1994

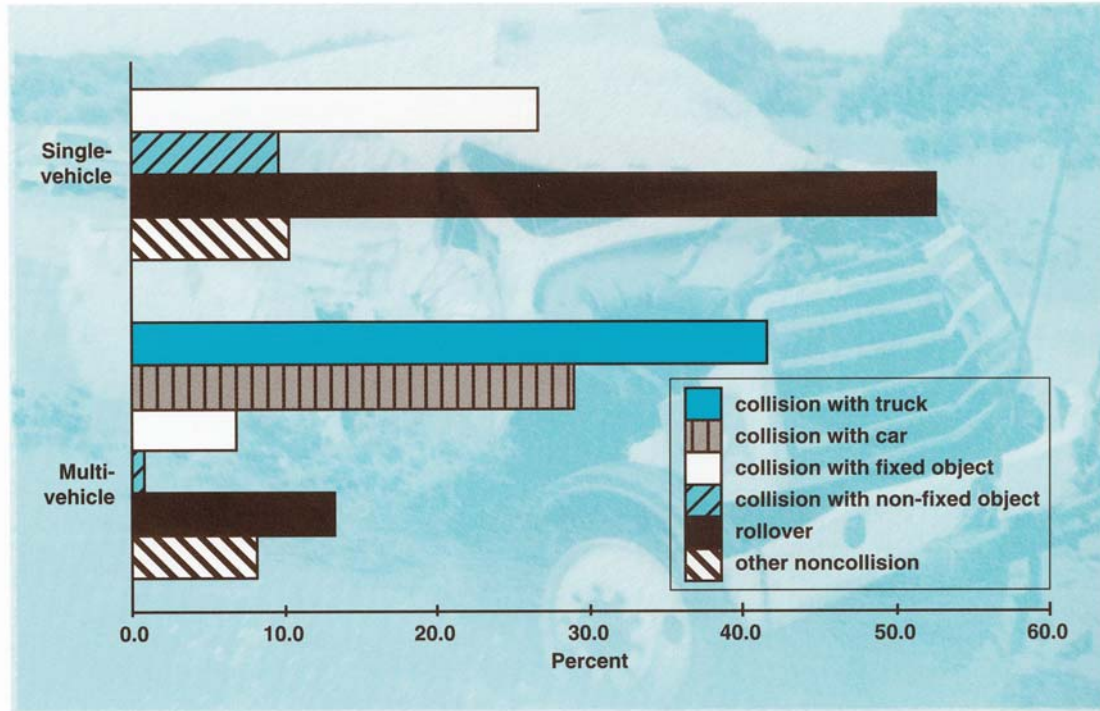


Figure 12. Truck driver fatalities: most harmful event in single and multiple vehicle accidents: TIFA, 1991-1994

# Occupant Status – Most Harmful Event

## Traffic Safety Facts - 2005

**Table 70**

**Vehicle Occupants Killed or Injured, by Vehicle Type and Most Harmful Event**

Vehicle Type	Most Harmful Event								Total	
	Collision with						Noncollision			
	Motor Vehicle in Transport		Object Not Fixed		Fixed Object					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Occupants Killed</b>										
Passenger Car	9,596	52.0	449	2.4	4,823	26.2	3,569	19.4	<b>18,440</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Light Truck	4,290	33.1	308	2.4	2,813	21.7	5,562	42.9	<b>12,975</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Large Truck	185	23.0	49	6.1	157	19.6	412	51.3	<b>803</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Bus	13	22.4	9	15.5	6	10.3	30	51.7	<b>58</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Other/Unknown	221	28.9	26	3.4	163	21.3	207	27.1	<b>765</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Subtotal	14,305	43.3	841	2.5	7,962	24.1	9,780	29.6	<b>33,041</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Motorcycle	2,293	50.4	204	4.5	1,222	26.8	829	18.2	<b>4,553</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,598</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>9,184</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>10,609</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>*37,594</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Occupants Injured</b>										
Passenger Car	1,244,000	79.1	34,000	2.2	216,000	13.7	79,000	5.0	<b>1,573,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Light Truck	624,000	71.5	18,000	2.0	113,000	12.9	118,000	13.5	<b>872,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Large Truck	15,000	56.1	1,000	2.2	3,000	9.4	9,000	32.3	<b>27,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Bus	11,000	95.3	**	3.3	**	0.2	**	1.2	<b>11,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Other/Unknown	4,000	37.4	**	3.8	2,000	19.9	4,000	38.9	<b>10,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Subtotal	1,898,000	76.1	53,000	2.1	333,000	13.4	210,000	8.4	<b>2,494,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Motorcycle	37,000	42.0	4,000	5.1	7,000	8.2	39,000	44.7	<b>87,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,935,000</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>340,000</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>249,000</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>2,581,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>

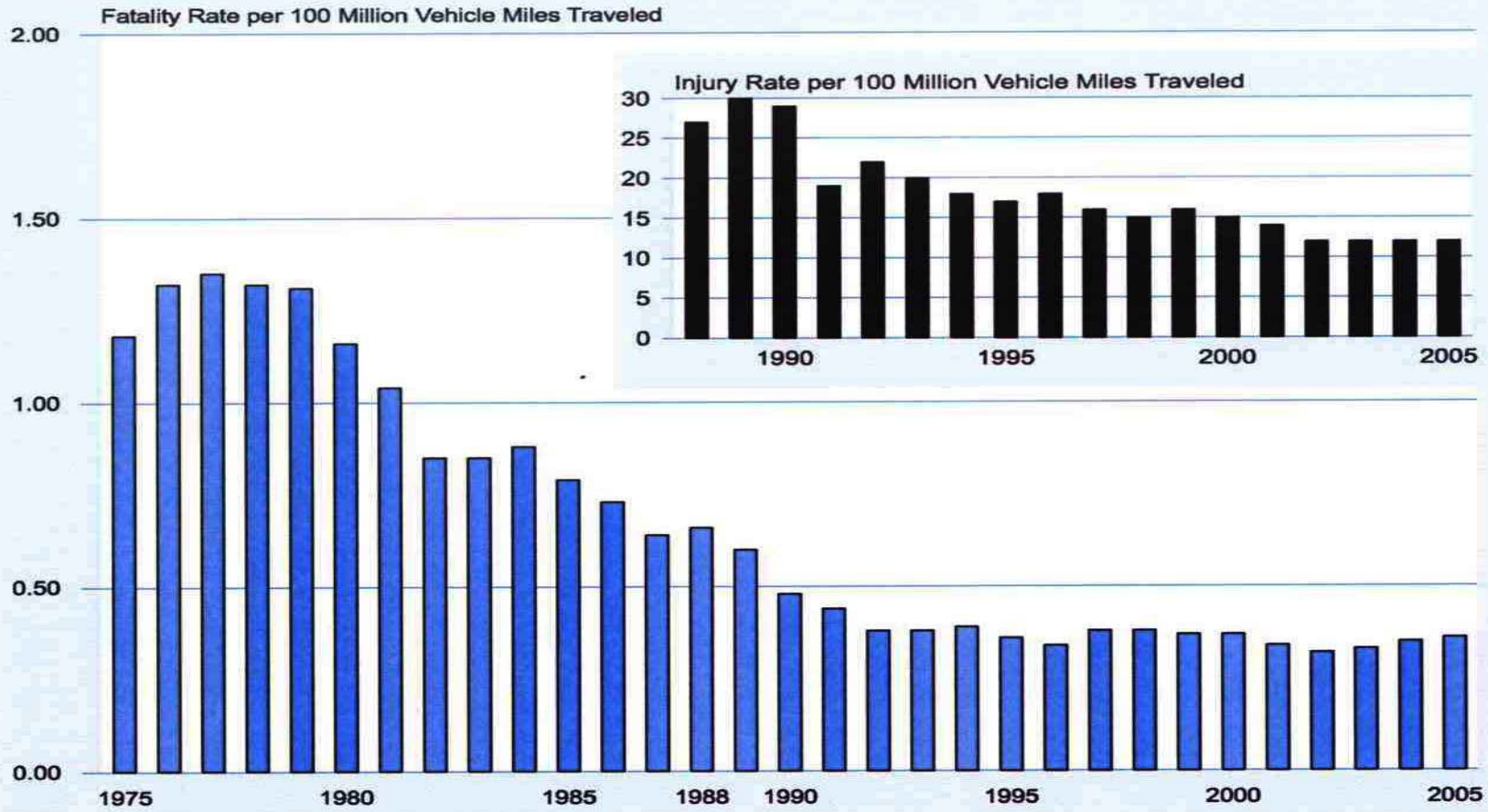
\*Includes 158 fatalities with unknown most harmful event.

\*\*Less than 500.



**Figure 6**

**Large Truck Occupant Fatality and Injury Rates per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled, 1975-2005**

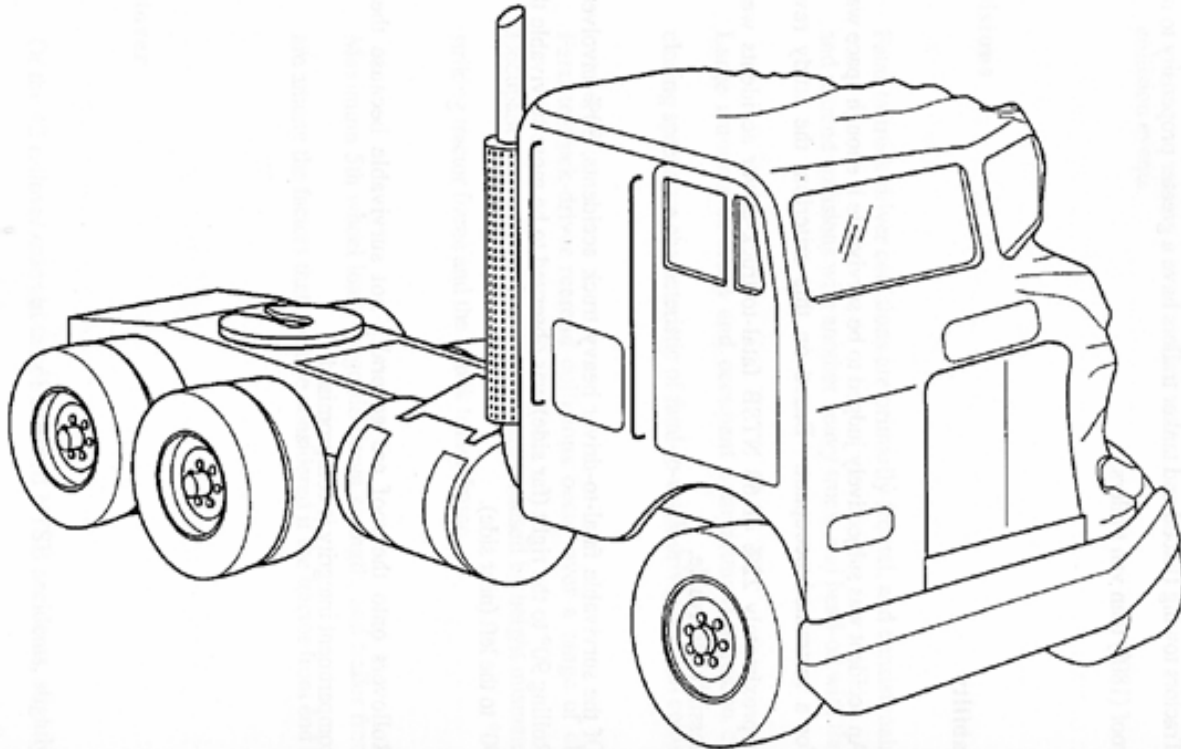




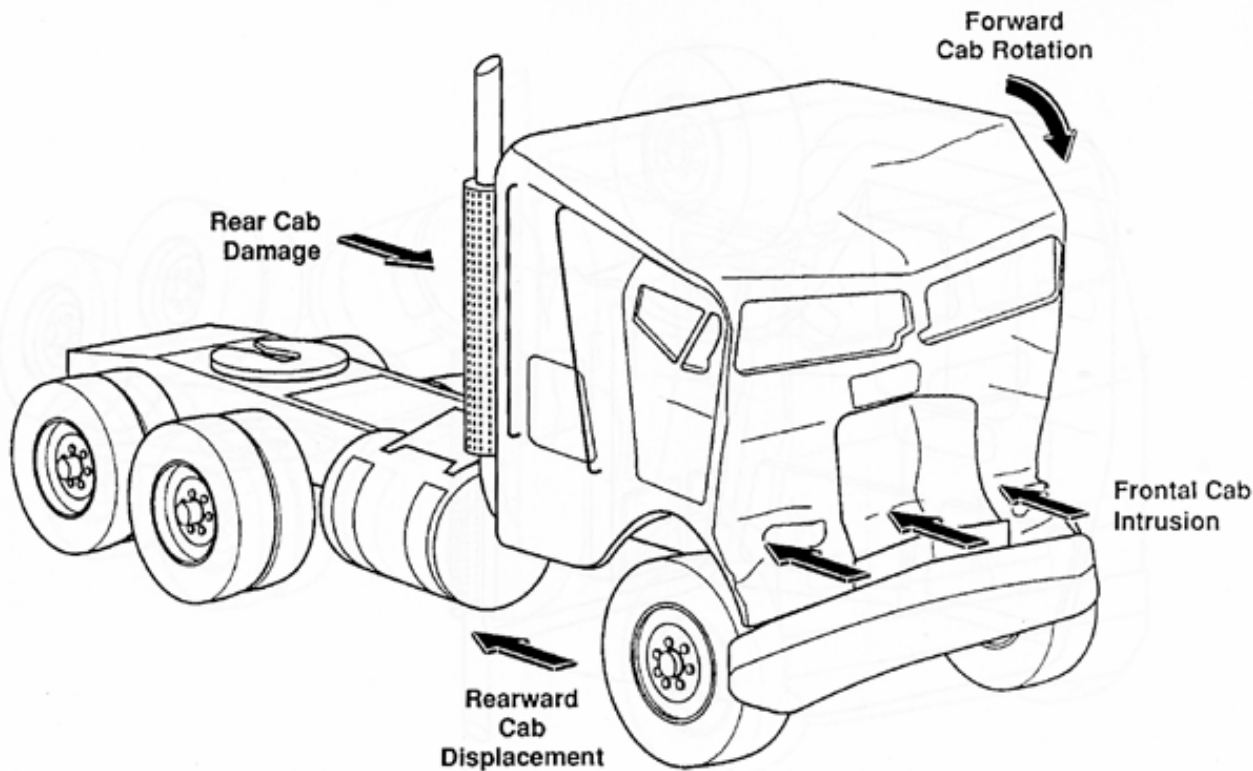
# Fatal-to -Truck Driver Crash Scenarios

- Detailed Accident Scenarios
  - Head-on collisions with other trucks
  - Collisions with fixed objects
  - Rear-end collisions with other heavy trucks
  - 90° rollover without a subsequent collision
  - 90° rollover with a subsequent collision
  - 180° rollover

# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Typical Damage - Frontal Collisions Head-on with Other Trucks



# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Typical Damage Frontal Collision with Rear End of Other Trucks



# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Frontal Collisions

## **Head-on collisions**

- ❖ Angle - Generally frontal – approximately 0 degree
- ❖ Height above ground - Bumper up
- ❖ Degree of overlap - Large amount of offset – 50% or less
- ❖ Vehicle side - Drivers
- ❖ Impact energy - Unknown – generally very high
- ❖ Deformation - Accident dependent– can be excessive

## **Collisions with massive fixed objects**

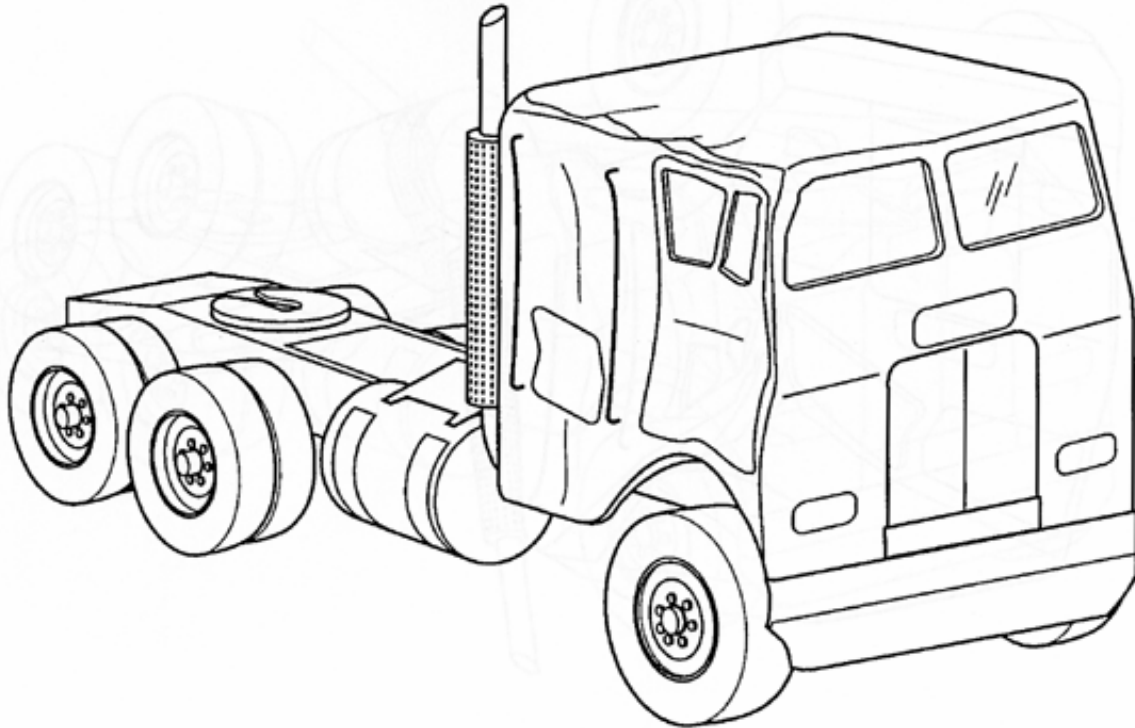
- ❖ Angle - Generally frontal – approximately 0 degree
- ❖ Height above ground - Bumper up
- ❖ Degree of overlap - Very dependent on item hit
- ❖ Vehicle side - Either
- ❖ Impact energy - Accident unknown – generally very high
- ❖ Deformation - Accident dependent– can be excessive

## **Rear-end collisions with other heavy trucks      ADDRESSED BY OICA**

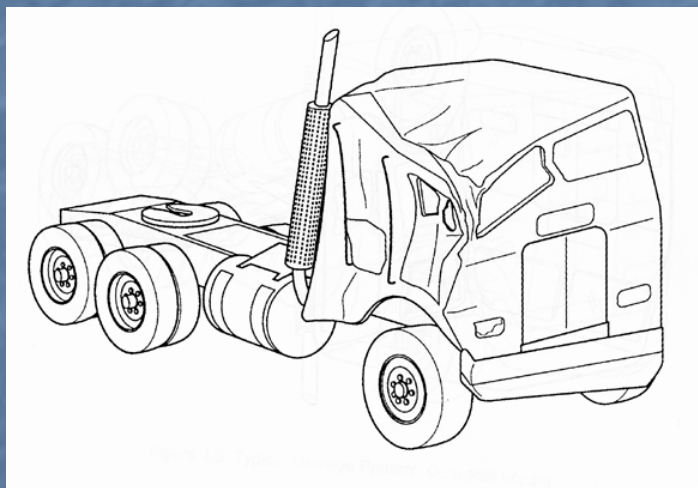
- ❖ Angle - Generally frontal – approximately 0 degree
- ❖ Height above ground - Generally trailer height -
- ❖ Degree of overlap - Full Frontal 100% overlap
- ❖ Vehicle side - Both
- ❖ Impact energy - Accident unknown –
- ❖ Deformation - Cab impacted at trailer height



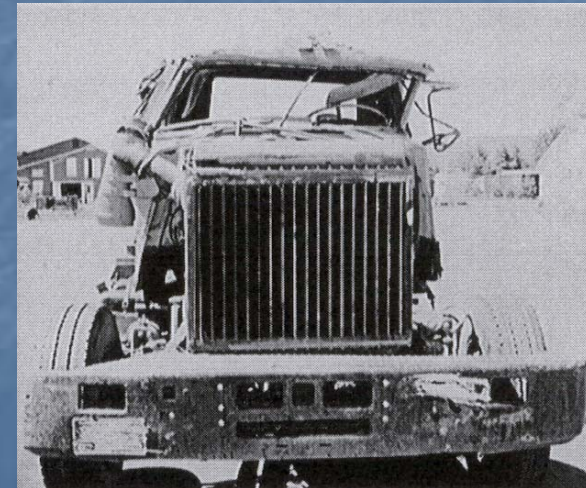
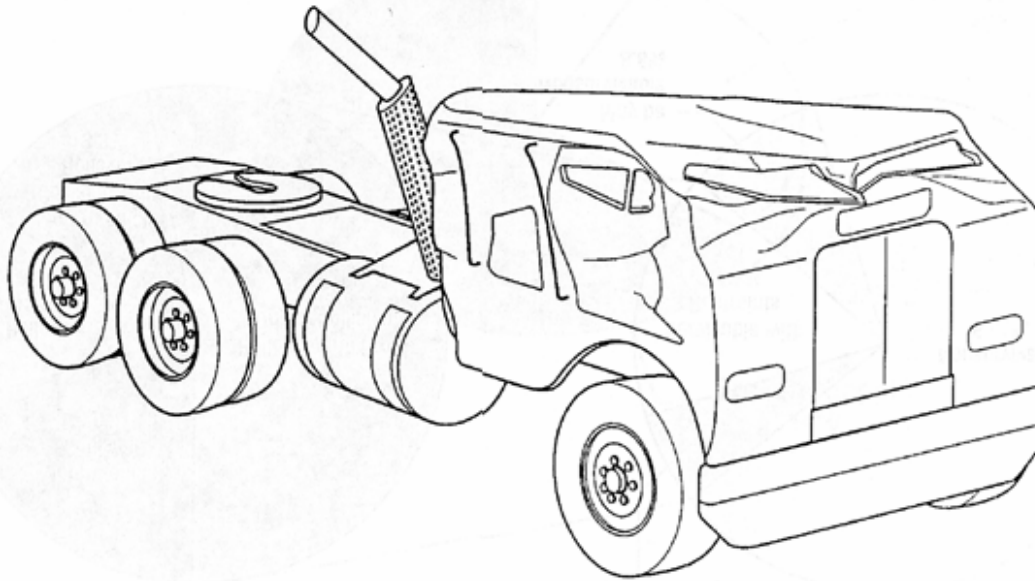
# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Typical Damage - 90° Rollover Without a Subsequent Impact



# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Typical Damage - 90° Rollover with Subsequent Collision



# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes Typical Damage - 180° Rollover





# Fatal-to-Truck Driver Crashes ROLLOVERS

## **90 ° rollover without a subsequent collision**

- ❖ Angle - Lateral – 90 degree
- ❖ Height above ground - Roof edge on the side of the cab
- ❖ Degree of overlap - NA
- ❖ Vehicle side - Either
- ❖ Impact energy - Accident unknown
- ❖ Deformation - Generally minor

## **90 ° rollover with a subsequent collision      ADDRESSED BY OICA**

- ❖ Angle - Lateral – 90 degree & fore/aft at upper front corner
- ❖ Height above ground - Roof edge on the side of the cab & upper front corner
- ❖ Degree of overlap - NA
- ❖ Vehicle side - Either
- ❖ Impact energy - Accident unknown
- ❖ Deformation - Accident dependent -upper corner deformation can be excessive

## **180 ° rollover      ADDRESSED BY OICA**

- ❖ Angle - Generally frontal – approximately 0-degree
- ❖ Height above ground - Roof edge on the side of the cab and top of roof
- ❖ Degree of overlap - NA
- ❖ Vehicle side - Either
- ❖ Impact energy - Accident unknown
- ❖ Deformation - Accident dependent – roof deformation can be excessive