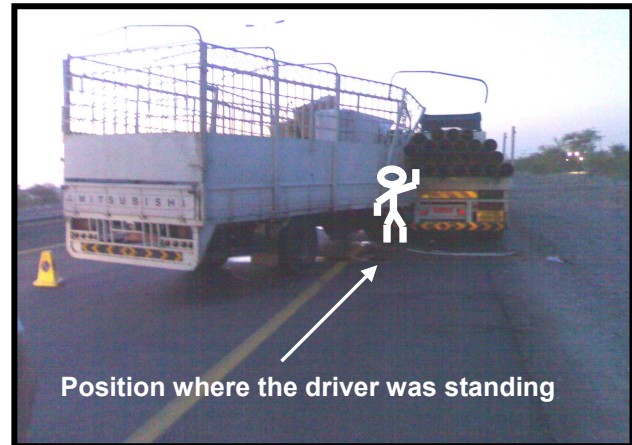


## What happened?

On the 17<sup>th</sup> October at 1.00am a HGV driver travelling on a main highway was pulled over on to the hard shoulder by the police for a routine documents check. On completing the check the driver stood at the rear of his trailer waiting to return to his vehicle. A third party canter vehicle drifted onto the hard shoulder, struck the police car and crashed into the driver and rear of the trailer.



Front view of canter vehicle embedded in trailer.



Rear view of canter vehicle embedded in trailer.

## Result:

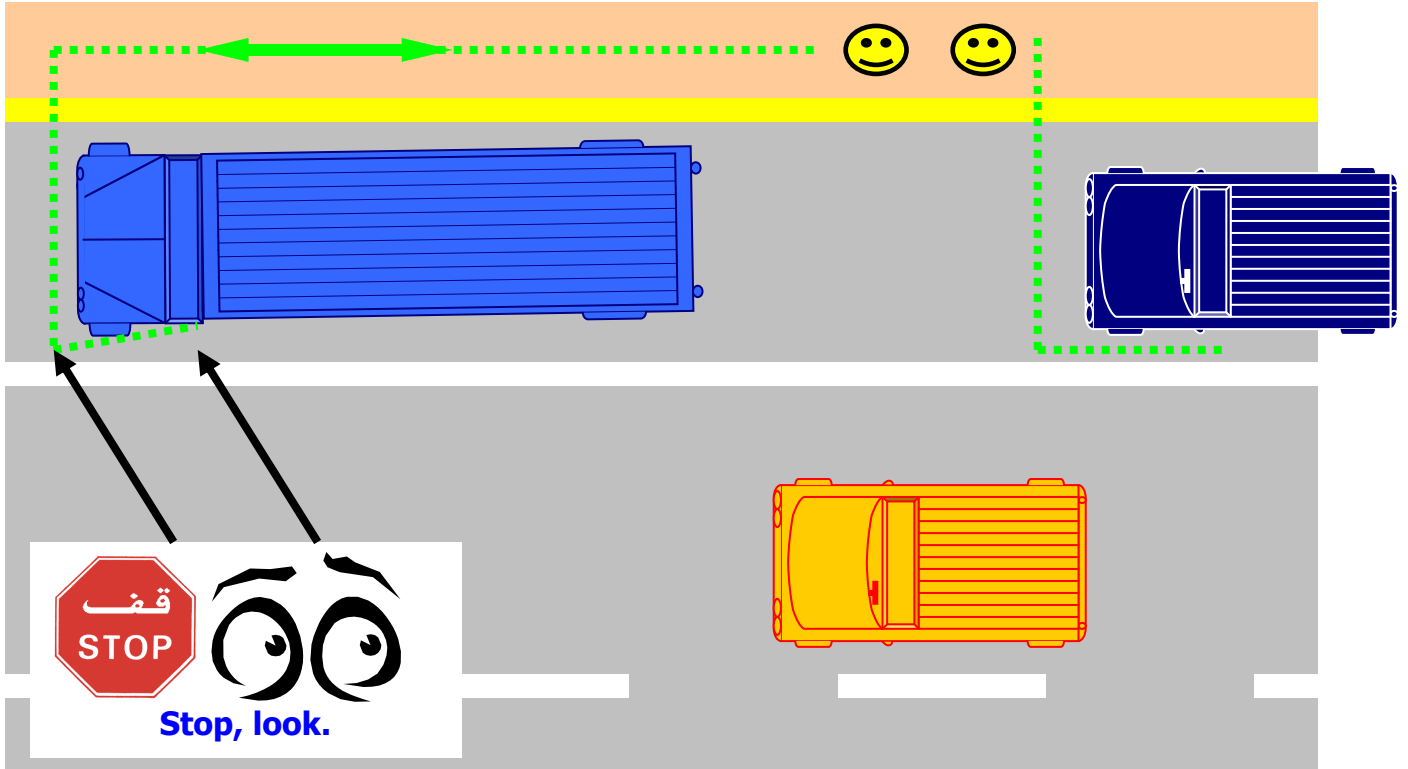
The HGV driver died at the scene, the third party driver sustained minor injuries, the third party vehicle was written off, the trailer and pipes suffered minor damage. The police officer escaped injury.

## Learning points:

- Wherever possible, always attempt to park in a designated protected parking area and avoid parking on the hard shoulder.
- If safe to do so, park as far away from passing traffic as is possible, remembering to leave room to walk down the near side of the vehicle.
- If it is safe to do so, leave and return to the vehicle via the passenger door of the cab.
- Where the use of the passenger door is not safe, visually check for passing traffic first then leave and return to the vehicle via the front of the cab.
- Note that traffic speed may be higher than expected and not allow you as much time as you think to exit safely. If necessary, wait.
- Never walk out into areas exposed to passing traffic without checking it is clear of traffic first.
- Never walk down the offside of the vehicle if exposed to passing traffic. Use the near side.

**To be posted on noticeboards and discussed at toolbox talks**

- Always attempt to position yourself so that your vehicle offers protection if struck by 3<sup>rd</sup> party traffic and you can escape. If necessary, explain the reasons to the police for wanting this.
- Never stand at the rear of a vehicle which is parked where there is passing traffic.
- Where possible, minimise night driving as we cannot control driving hours of third parties.



**To be posted on noticeboards and discussed at toolbox talks**