

PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 93

Date: October 2025	Focus Group: All Drivers
Topic: Truck Rollover – Public Road	Issued by: Nic Steens

Background: On 22 September 2025, a log truck and trailer transporting export logs rolled onto its side on a public road. The left wheels tracked wide off the sealed road into a soft, freshly metaled edge. The trailer then clipped a roadside bank, eventually tipping the whole unit over. Logs spilled, and the cab was badly damaged.

Injury Details: The driver sustained two dislocated shoulders (relocated at the scene) and bruising, requiring hospital treatment, but was discharged the same day. The truck cab was extensively damaged, and logs required recovery from the road.

Risk Awareness: Soft or poorly defined road edges can quickly collapse under the weight of loaded trucks, and the risks are heightened in low light, on roads without fog lines, or where surfaces have recently been altered. Correct positioning through bends is critical, as trailers track differently to the tractor unit, and even experienced drivers can misjudge edge stability. In the event of a rollover, wearing properly fitting seatbelts and restraints are essential to minimise injury.

Safe Behaviours (for all drivers):

- Drive to the conditions – reduce speed and take safe lines through bends.
- Stay alert – scan for edge changes, soft berms, or other roadside hazards.
- Check seatbelts – ensure they fit and function correctly.
- Report road works promptly so any repairs (risks) can be shared with other drivers.

For Site Manager:

Print and complete the following:

1. Discuss with employees/operators:
2. Place on-site notice board or in file:

Site Manager: _____ **Date:** / /
(initials)

