

SAFETY ALERT

January 13th, 2015 – High Speed Vehicle Collision

Event Description

Over the weekend a seismic crew supervisor was driving in central Alberta on a resource road. The supervisor was passing a must call location at km 12 (called) at approximately 2:15pm with slick roads and low light conditions. As they came close to cresting the km 13 hill they noticed two vehicles heading towards him. A well servicing pickup truck was passing a tractor trailer in his lane. The well service operator and seismic supervisor both veered towards the same ditch opposite the tractor trailer. In a last minute attempt to avoid a head on collision the supervisor straightened out and attempted to drive between the two vehicles. This last minute decision prevented a head on collision but resulted in significant vehicle damage as the pickups contacted passenger sides.

There were two occupants in the well service pickup, one of which was asleep at the time and the seismic supervisor was traveling alone.

The incident was called in over the road channel to notify other vehicles as well as the crew channel. The vehicles were positioned in an attempt to minimize the risk of traffic interference and it was verified that no medical assistance was required. Luckily no injuries were a result of the event.



Findings

- The oncoming well servicing pickup truck failed to call in or monitor the road channel
- Poor defensive driving practices exercised by the well servicing operator to pass on a blind hill
- Failure to recognize the risk potential of recent snowfall and operate to conditions



Corrective Action Plan

- Remind all workers and contractors of the importance of complying with radio controlled resource roads
- Contact the resource road owner to report the event and its learnings
- Review defensive driving practices with all personnel and the importance of:
 - Planned trips with sufficient time permitted
 - Driving or adapt to road and weather conditions
 - Reducing speed and increasing distance
 - Having adequate rest and being fit for duty
 - Being ready for the unexpected
 - Exercising the shared responsibility of passengers

Safety Message

Driving is the greatest risk we attempt to control but continue to accept the residual exposure in almost everyday of our lives. We as a company and as individuals need to be as diligent as we can to be safe and responsible operators each and every time we sit behind the wheel.

