

Smartbrake

Reducing Accidents

What is smartbrake?

What is smartbrake? Smartbrake is an electronic control monitoring system that monitors a number of parameters within a heavy vehicle. These parameters pertain to the drivers position in the vehicle the vehicles speed the condition of the park brake the door status. Under very specific circumstance this system then applies the heavy vehicles park brake automatically. The driver can then using a keypad and his personalised code release the system and continue normally.

Reasons for Smartbrake

The basic reason for fitting a smartbrake unit is to prevent a heavy vehicle from rolling away in the event the driver exits the vehicle and forgets to put the brake on, or the park brake releases accidentally due to faulty park brake. A large heavy vehicle in the range of 5-70 ton or more rolling out of control will cause considerable damage and potential loss of life.

Why would a driver forget to apply the hand brake?

Why would a driver forget to apply the hand brake? Well this seems like a simple task when exiting the vehicle to simply apply the park brake. Under normal conditions it is unlikely that a driver would forget to do this. The following conditions can alter the “normal conditions” and a drivers concentration.

Stress – the potential reasons for stress are too numerous to mention

Fatigue – long hours of driving no sleep adverse weather conditions and can all lead to a loss of focus.

Distraction – there are many things going on in a professional drivers normal duties, phones, radios, paperwork, passengers, monitoring the vehicles many systems.

Inexperience – for less experienced drivers or drivers driving a new vehicle for the first time all can lead to a loss of focus.

Damage and death

Imagine a heaver vehicle parked in the top of a moderate hill then starting to roll down the street, with no driver its path is unknown and the damage from the weight of the vehicle alone is potentially horrific. It could run into other vehicles buses maybe carrying school children run into schools or buildings. If the truck is carrying chemicals the potential for a chemical spill is added threats and dangers, can you afford not to fit smartbrake.