

MONTHLY SAFETY MEETING

Date: December 2018
Subject: TOW HOOK FAILURE ALERT!

An unfortunate situation occurred when a vehicle was being loaded on a rollback. The photographs illustrated below will serve as an example of what can happen. We are urging all of our members to use extreme caution when loading or unloading vehicles equipped with these tow hooks. It is further advisable to keep the surrounding area clear to prevent personal injury or damage.

Some vehicles offer an access door through the bumper to install a tow hook for winching the vehicle on the bed. It appears that many of the new car manufacturers are using this method.



The photograph illustrated on the left is where the tow hook is fastened through the bumper. The tow hook is screwed into a sleeve which is welded to the chassis.



When the tow hook was screwed into position the sleeve broke away from the chassis while being winched onto the bed of the truck. As a result, the bumper cover was ripped off. After close examination it was determined that the weld did not have enough penetration which led to the failure. There were no other signs of metal fatigue etc.