

**EVENT DATE:** July 7, 2009

**INCIDENT #09-086**

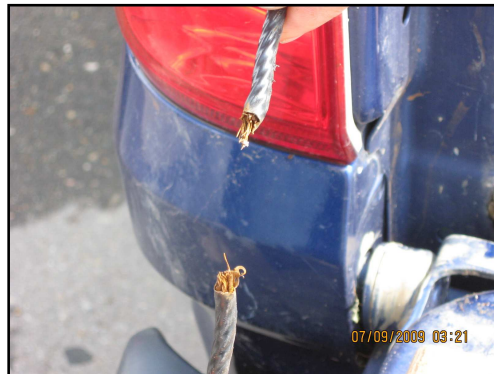
**TYPE OF EVENT:** Property Damage

**AREA:** Medicine Hat

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**WHAT'S UP?**

While unloading a valve from the back of a Toyota Tundra, one of the tailgate support cables broke allowing the tailgate to drop and twist creating approximately \$1,000 damage. This event also had the potential for personal injury had the worker & valve fallen off the tailgate.



**THE CAUSE**

A post incident inspection of the broken cable showed signs of rusting however inspection of the cable itself was impeded by the protective cover. While GM had a recall some time ago on their cables, no recall has been issued to date, by Toyota.

**THE SOLUTION**

- 1) The approximate weight on the tailgate was less than 400 lbs. (one worker and part of the valve). Manufacturers (Toyota, GM, Dodge) do not have a load rating for tailgates & do not recommend placing any weight on it.
- 2) Conduct immediate & then periodic inspection of tailgate cables (all makes of vehicles) during vehicle inspections. Look for signs of wear or rusting poking out of the protective coatings. Replace as required.



**Questions or concerns regarding this alert?**

Contact the Maverick Safety Coordinator @  
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