

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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