

# Lessons Learned

Date:	12/6/2022	Region:	Mountain
Project:	Quantum	Incident Title:	Keep a safe following distance

Summary	Picture
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An Apollo employee attempted to avoid a rear end collision with a semi-truck driver who locked-up his brakes in front of him.

Fearing he was not going to be able to stop in time, he swerved over to the adjacent lane to avoid hitting the truck in front of him.

This action resulted in a collision with another driver in the righthand lane.



What Went Right?	What Went Wrong?
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- Employee reported called the police and stayed at the scene.
- Employee was wearing his seat belt and was unhurt
- Employee reported the incident to Safety right away.
- Because other driver left the scene of the accident. Apollo employee was not cited.

- Employee was following too close to stop, requiring him to try and swerve out of the way.
- His reaction to not being able to stop resulted in collision with another vehicle.
- Employee was on his way to pick up a part not delivered by a vendor. A part that was first reported to be at one location, but it was not. On his way to the new location the accident occurred.

## Lessons Learned

Stay vigilant and avoid following too closely for an average large vehicle, the 4-second rule is best.

To utilize this rule, pick a stationary object up ahead. This could be a road sign, a tree, or something on the shoulder of the highway. Count the number of seconds in between the car in front of you passing the object and your vehicle passing it. If you count at least 4 seconds, you are at a safe following distance. However, if you count less than 4 seconds, slow down a bit and create more distance between your vehicle and the one in front of you. The last thing you want is for the car in front of you to press the brakes and cause you to swerve to avoid hitting them.

Do what we do best, installing mechanical and plumbing systems, and avoid driving altogether. Choose suppliers who are reliable and who will deliver in a timely fashion.