

ROAD SAFETY

AN IMPERIAL PROGRAMME



IMPERIAL ROAD SAFETY PARTNERS WITH FLEETWATCH MAGAZINE'S BRAKE & TYRE WATCH PROGRAMME

On Wednesday 25th March 2015, at the Roots Lifestyle Centre in Potchefstroom, IMPERIAL Road Safety attended the first Fleetwatch Brake and Tyre Watch event, designed to raise transport operators' awareness around the subject of efficient brake and tyre checking and preventative maintenance on trucks.

IMPERIAL Road Safety made the decision to partner with the Brake and Tyre Watch initiative this year, as the project carries a strong synergy with what the IMPERIAL Road Safety campaign advocates – that road safety starts with each and every one of us – especially high-frequency road users, such as trucks.

Over the 26 Brake and Tyre watch events held since 2006, there have been a total of 574 trucks tested, with 384 being discontinued as they failed the safety tests – meaning a failure rate of 67%! At the Potchefstroom event last week, 30 vehicles were pulled over of which 21 were discontinued. This means that 70% of vehicles pulled over failed brake and/or tyre checks in this regard.



THERE HAVE BEEN OVER 26 BRAKE AND TYRE WATCH INITIATIVES HELD SINCE 2006



384 TRUCKS DISCONTINUED AFTER THE SAFETY TEST - MEANING A 67% FAILURE RATE



THERE HAVE BEEN A TOTAL OF 574 TRUCKS TESTED



70% OF VEHICLES PULLED OVER FAILED BRAKE AND/OR TYRE CHECK AT THE POTCHEFSSTROOM EVENT

The project, designed to train traffic officials into identifying signs of un-roadworthiness on trucks, and empowering them to become advocates for change themselves in the road safety arena, is also intended to raise transport operators' awareness around the subject of efficient braking and tyre checks linked to preventative maintenance on trucks.



IMPERIAL believes that the project truly makes a difference to road safety – where, given the sheer number of unroadworthy trucks on the country's roads, identifying these trucks as a hazard and pulling them off the road can make a fundamental difference to road incidents.

The first day was theoretical, focusing on the quality of brake maintenance and determining braking efficiency, through to tyre faults, which included a practical check with a roadworthy truck and trailer. The second day was focused towards practical examples and training which included trucks being pulled off the main road and put through a Brake Roller Test so as to ascertain the state of brakes and braking systems on each vehicle. The vehicles will also be checked in the pit for tyre and other faults.

The rationale behind the project is that all too often crashes are blamed on two things, either 'the brakes failed' or 'the tyre burst'. FleetWatch contends that brakes only fail if you fail to put your foot on the brake pedal – or alternatively when the operator has failed to maintain the brakes – with the latter neglect the biggest concern.



IMPERIAL Road Safety was excited to attend and assist with checking and testing the trucks with FleetWatch and the team were inspired by see Patrick O'Leary's (editor of FleetWatch) passion for truck driver safety and educating drivers, which is nothing short of remarkable. He truly stands for the ideal that road safety starts with each and ever one of us.

Regards,
IMPERIAL ROAD SAFETY

ROAD SAFETY

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