

Alert No 03/2015

This safety alert has been prepared by the RSTA. Completed forms for adding to the RSTA website should be submitted to Clive Mitchell clive@rsta-uk.org For further information regarding this safety alert please email Clive or phone 07557529410

**Safety Alert**

**Sweeper Incident**

 An incident occurred when a sweeper driver was carrying out pre sweeping tasks on a surface dressing site in conjunction with another sweeper. During the sweeping

process around a traffic island, the driver exited the vehicle to

manually sweep the material to the rear of the vehicle; however the handbrake was not applied. Whilst this activity occurred the sweeper started to roll backwards, this was witnessed by the other driver who sounded his horn. However it was too late and the sweeper rolled back onto the driver pinning his leg between the bumper and a bollard.

Immediately after the incident, the other driver pulled up and

applied the handbrake, an ambulance was called and a first

responder arrived to provide gas and air to the driver, who

received a fractured left leg and knee injuries.

This is the second incident in recent months relating to the use of handbrakes on vehicles.



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**Safety Alert**

All vehicles must be secured through the use of a handbrake regardless of the duration of time spent out of the vehicle.

Handbrakes must be checked to see that they are fully engaged and locked.

All identified defects must be reported and actioned accordingly.