



PRESS RELEASE

To : All News Editors
Issued : 04 July 2017
Attention : News Editors

Truck accidents claim 24 lives and 69 injuries in 24-hour period

The Road Traffic Management Corporation is concerned about the spate of road accidents involving trucks and public transport vehicles.

The country has experienced two major collisions in the last 24 hours in which trucks and public transport vehicles have crashed into each other resulting in the death of 24 people and injuries to 69 others.

In the latest crash which happened this morning (Tuesday, July 4, 2017) 18 people were killed and 15 were seriously injured when a Mozambican registered articulated truck, and a minibus were involved in a collision on R541 between Machado and Badplaas in Mpumalanga province. The public transport vehicles are believed to have been transporting mine workers to work when the accident happened at around 6H50 this morning.

Six other people were killed and 54 injured in another major crash in the Free State on Monday. Preliminary information from that accident indicate that the bus allegedly drove into the truck that had broken down on the N8 between Botshabelo and Bloemfontein.

Board of Directors: Mr Z Majavu CD(SA) (Chairman), Ms P Mathabathe, Ms T Mdlulwa, Ms D Ewertse, Mr T Kgomo,
Prof. M Mphahlele, Ms T Thankge, Dr E Thebe, Mr J Motsatsing*
Chief Executive Officer: Advocate MS Msibi
Company Secretary: Mr M Razwinani
*Departmental Representative

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The RTMC will be working with the SAPS and provincial authorities to investigate the causes of these accidents.

Last year, the RTMC investigated 36 crashes involving trucks and 143 people were killed in those accidents while 136 sustained injuries. A total of 49 trucks were involved in the collisions which involved 35 light motor vehicles, 18 light delivery vehicles, 11 minibuses and one motorcycle.

Most of the crashes were multiple vehicle type crashes, head on collisions, head-to-rear crashes and side swipe type crashes.

Motorists are called upon to be vigilant when driving this time of the year. The winter period in South African is characterised by poor visibility, veld fires and extended periods of darkness.

For interviews please contact: Simon Zwane-082 551 9892- RTMC

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