



Learning Event



DRIVING

HAZARD

Physical
(Moving object -
vehicle)

Collision

CONSEQUENCES

Actual: No harm to persons
Potential: This could have
caused a fatality

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MANAGE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COLLISIONS WITH ANIMALS WHEN DRIVING?

What Happened?

Whilst travelling in the early morning a Toyota Landcruiser collided with a kangaroo. Upon impact the vehicle's steering was abruptly directed to the right, without any input from the driver. The vehicle veered across the opposite side of the road, onto the unsealed shoulder and made contact with several tree branches on the side of the road prior to the driver regaining control and bringing the vehicle to a controlled stop.

Why did it Happen?

The kangaroo impacted the vehicle's steering drag link resulting in the component being bent.

What did they Learn?

In this model Toyota Landcruiser (and others) the steering linkage is vulnerable to damage due to its position.

A suitable engineering control which protects this vulnerable component (an under-body protection plate) was fitted, tested and evaluated.

Protection will be retrofitted to all Landcruisers in the vehicle fleet with this exposure and pre-installed on new deliveries.

IOGP Life-Saving Rules

- ✓ Wear a seatbelt
- ✓ Do not exceed the speed limit and reduce my speed for road conditions
- ✓ Be fit, rested and fully alert while driving
- ✓ Follow journey management requirements



Bent steering drag link following impact.



Point of impact with Kangaroo



Vehicle stopped on the opposite side of the road



Steering linkage is vulnerable to damage due to its position.



Under-body protection plate

Ask yourself or your Crew:

- Does your Journey Management process consider possible collisions with animals? How do you manage these risks?
- Do you have vehicles in your fleet with exposed steering components that are vulnerable to damage?
- Have you installed an under-body protection plate (or other suitable engineering control) to protect exposed steering components from damage?
- Does your Journey Management process include vehicle pre-start inspections? How would you report any defects involving steering?

Further information:



SCAN ME

Safer Together Light Vehicle Specification



SCAN ME

National Road Safety Partnership Program - Toolbox Talks



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