

# Parking/Backing Question

---

Dear NETS Members,

February 5, 2010

John Anderson of Pioneer asked what NETS members have done to reduce the frequency of parking and backing incidents.

Page | 1 Responses are provided below. Please note I **have** included the names and companies of respondents.

Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Jack Hanley

NETS

Executive Director

[jhanley@trafficsafety.org](mailto:jhanley@trafficsafety.org)

---

## Question

I am curious how people have tackled parking/backing issues and what they have done to improve.

Thanks.

**John Anderson**

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

[john.h.anderson@pioneer.com](mailto:john.h.anderson@pioneer.com)

---

## Responses

### 1) AstraZeneca

My only experience with this issue is from the UK.

In the UK (a few years ago) the % collisions attributed to backing/reversing was approx 20%. As a result, behind the wheel training was adapted to include a session in cars parks. The trainee was asked to park the car in any place of their own choice. The trainer then assessed the choice of parking place and the technique for actually putting the car into the parking place. Coaching was then provided and if necessary the process was repeated a number of times to practice the technique. Over a period of around 2 years the % collisions attributed to backing/reversing fell to around 10%.

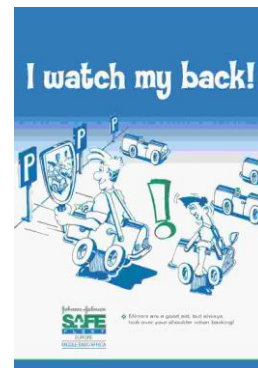
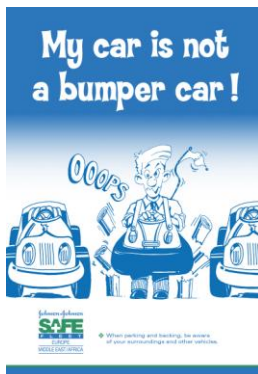
# Parking/Backing Question

Rob McAuley  
[Rob.McAuley@astrazeneca.com](mailto:Rob.McAuley@astrazeneca.com)

Page | 2

## 2) Johnson & Johnson

P&B is one of our top crashes and as such we address this almost every year through a short flash or other training. In EMEA we also created a cartoon series that operating companies can print out and use however they wish to get the message across to their drivers. See cartoons attached.



Gabriel Kardos  
[gtkardos@its.inj.com](mailto:gtkardos@its.inj.com)

We've worked with BTW suppliers (e.g. in US) to ensure that they devoted sufficient time to cover parking and backing techniques with our drivers. In our awareness tools, we reinforce pulling through and backing in where allowed.

Sandy Lee  
[slee3@its.inj.com](mailto:slee3@its.inj.com)

## 3) Roche

We have looked at this issue and while there is a frequency concern, the dollars involved are not significant when compared to other crashes. We costed out providing backup sensors and/or cameras and could not justify the installation from just a physical damage perspective. We also look at the blind spots around the vehicle and vehicle obstructions that would contribute to this type of crash.

We do provide tips to improve awareness such as

- parking so that you do not have to back up or
- in the event that is not possible backing into the space when visibility is better to eliminate the need to back out.

# Parking/Backing Question

---

- do not waste time in the car before backing as the conditions are changing as the rep sits in the car.
- be aware of obstacles around the vehicle before getting in the vehicle.

Rocco Di Taranto  
[rocco.di\\_taranto@roche.com](mailto:rocco.di_taranto@roche.com)

Page | 3

## 4) Shell

This is where Journey Management Planning is key:

- Challenge the need for the journey
- Challenge the route and determine ways to reduce risks/exposure to ALARP (as low as reasonably possible). This includes no backing unless no other options available
- Require back up alarms in all light good and heavy good vehicles.
- Use a flagman as appropriate when backing up
- Special defensive driving training dealing with proper backing techniques (including a walk around the vehicle to ensure no objects are in the way before backing)
- Reverse into packing stalls, so when you only drive forward when exiting the parking lot (applicable to passenger cars)
- Work with customers to design service stations where tanker trucks never have to back up
- Investigate and share learnings from all incidents
- Awareness campaigns on proper backing

Mike Watson  
[Mike.Watson@shell.com](mailto:Mike.Watson@shell.com)

## 5) GE

This is a great question.....GE has been struggling with this as well. We have obtained video(s) from \_\_\_\_\_ that address this specifically, but we continue to be plagued with a lot of incidents around parking and backing. We have looked at external devices that can be attached to bumpers (wired and wireless) as "beepers" to help alert, but with our Fleet vehicles, we have some restrictions on what we can do to the vehicle without impacting salvage costs. So, to answer John's question - we have not been able to improve this yet and are still looking for ways to address.

Jeri Hall  
[Jeri.Hall@med.ge.com](mailto:Jeri.Hall@med.ge.com)

## 6) Merck

Awareness and Training, including instructions to avoid packing when possible by practicing driving and/or parking habits that seek to 1) eliminate the need for backing when possible or 2)

# Parking/Backing Question

---

When you must back, use extra precautions. We also suggest that drivers lightly tap the horn twice before backing.

We have done small pilots with aftermarket collision sensing devices, but have not deployed across the fleet as we have not been able to quantify a potential benefit versus cost.

Page | 4

Bob Holman  
[robert\\_holman@merck.com](mailto:robert_holman@merck.com)

## 7) AstraZeneca

For all parking and backing incidents, the driver is required to complete an online training module along with coaching from the manager. Improvement in this area tends to vacillate year over year, however our overall numbers for these types of incidents are relatively low.

Wilton Carr  
[Wilton.Carr@astrazeneca.com](mailto:Wilton.Carr@astrazeneca.com)

## 8) Spectra Energy

We have introduced the following programs / technologies to handle backing in /parking issues.

- We have implemented a Backing In (or pull-through) Exit Forward program when parking vehicle for all employees (field and office)
- All drivers, on company business, must perform a complete circle check before moving a parked vehicle.  
This applies to all fleet vehicles, rental vehicles or personal vehicle being used on company business.
- Some vehicles use back-up cameras
- Some vehicles use back-up sonar

Rina Muscedere  
[rmuscedere@spectraenergy.com](mailto:rmuscedere@spectraenergy.com)