

RECOMMENDATIONS

The National Transportation Safety Board recommends that the Federal Highway Administration:

1. Develop and disseminate throughout the motor carrier industry, an "On Guard" bulletin alerting drivers of commercial vehicles equipped with externally adjustable braking systems of:
 - a) The need to be familiar with company policies and practices with respect to on-road adjustment of brakes;
 - b) methods and techniques for detecting potential or existing problems in adjustment;
 - c) the scope of the problem in insuring proper brake adjustment;
 - d) methods and techniques for the proper on-road adjustment of braking systems currently and generally in use. (Recommendation H-75-17)
2. In cooperation with the motor carrier industry and driver organizations, determine what critical roadway characteristic information should be available, especially to drivers of commercial or other large vehicles, to assure their safe descent of long/steep highway grades. (Recommendation H-75-18)
3. Review the existing application of signing configurations for long/steep highway grades in each State in order to identify problem areas and to obtain information for developing more adequate signing standards for various highway grades. (Recommendation H-75-19)
4. Establish, in its adopted Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, provisions which require the presentation of critical roadway characteristic information to drivers of commercial or other large vehicles at long/steep grades, and insure application of these provisions through the authority contained within Highway Safety Program Standard 13, Traffic Engineering Services. (Recommendation H-75-20)
5. Establish a design policy for long/steep grades that will insure the provision of escape routes when the character of the grade has a potential for contributing to the generation of runaway vehicles. (Recommendation H-75-21)