



**North American  
Transport Services**

# SAFE BACKING



There's nothing that can replace the information your eyes can give you about potential hazards. I can tell you of so many drivers that tell me they were being guided by someone else when they hit another vehicle. That is the reason why you should always get out and walk around to get a picture of what you're backing into.

Another mistake some drivers make is thinking nobody is behind them and backing up. In so many occasions trucks collide with cars when they back up into a small car that was behind them and the driver couldn't see it because of his rear blind spot. If you passed the entrance to a customer's warehouse, or you missed a turn, or you needed to make a wider turn, don't panic and don't start backing up without first walking around your vehicle.

A good habit safe drivers have, is to signal their intentions by lightly tapping on their city horn when they're getting ready to back up, in order to give an additional warning. It is always possible you got out looked around and it was clear but a pedestrian or car gets in your way. By honking you make distracted drivers or pedestrians understand your intentions and avoid an accident.

One important factor to discuss is the distance you will be backing up. Minimize the distance as much as possible so you have less a chance to strike a fixed object.

If you're backing up avoid backing towards the right side (the blind side). It's hard enough to back a trailer into a dock to add doing it blindly. Turn your vehicle around so you can back up from the driver's side and go slow. Slow movements will keep you in full control of your vehicle's movements

