

Executive Summary

On August 24, 2019, a small truck, QAE-976, of Hezhi Express Co., Ltd. (Hezhi), passing through the intersection of Dazhu Road Lane 288 and Shangzhu Road, Luzhu District, Taoyuan City at about 0640 hours in the morning. Due to drunk driving and speeding when passing a curve, the vehicle lost control and hit 4 environmental volunteers and a pedestrian on the right side of the road, and collided with 4 cars parked on the side of the road. A total of 2 volunteers and 1 pedestrian died in this accident, and 2 volunteers, the driver and passenger were injured and sent to the hospital.

Conclusions

1. The occurrence driver drank alcoholic beverages while driving. The truck was speeding and entering the curve at a speed of about 98 km/hr, lost control and was unable to stop in time, and collided with pedestrians and vehicles on the roadside.
2. The occurrence driver did not hold a valid driver's license issued by the Directorate General of Highways, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, and did not have sufficient rest time before performing cargo delivery duties at the occurrence night.
3. Hezhi has not established a mechanism to control the duty hours and rest time of its driver employees, which cannot prevent fatigue driving and increase the risk of accidents.
4. Hezhi has not established a complete name list of the drivers who can drive the company's vehicles to perform delivery services, has not used the Motor Vehicle Driver Information Service to check the status of the driver's license, and has not managed the actual drivers of the delivery vehicles. Therefore, Hezhi cannot confirm all driver employees hold a valid driver's license to perform duties.
5. The Hsinchu Motor Vehicles Office Taoyuan Station, in accordance with the Automobile Cargo Transportation Business, the Automobile Cargo Transportation within Designated Route(s) Enterprise, and the Container Truck Transportation Enterprise inspection policy issued by the Directorate General of Highways, visited Hezhi Shi and conducted on-site inspections on November 7, 2018 and July 19, 2019, respectively. The Station imposed a penalty in Article 77 of the Highway Act on the company's vehicle serious violations, and wrote to the company to improve its actions within a time limit. However, the inspections did not confirm the completeness and correctness of relevant records and information in the safety assessment of Hezhi's safety inspections, did not actively collect and analyze the

effectiveness of Hezhi's improvement actions, which could not understand and supervise the operating safety management status of Hezhi to provide guidance to improve safety.

6. The curved section of the road related to this occurrence has not been set up with appropriate prohibition/warning signs or markings in accordance with the relevant provisions of the road traffic signs and markings setting regulations.

Transportation Safety Recommendations

To Hezhi Express Co., Ltd.

1. Strengthen driver safety management to maintain the safety of the drivers and pedestrians, including:
 - Establish a name list of all drivers who can perform the company's delivery duties, regularly inspect the status of the driver's license, and confirm the driver's identity and driver's license before duties;
 - Establish a mechanism to control the duty and rest time of the drivers to avoid the risk of fatigue driving;
 - Strengthen the management measures for drunk driving and speeding violations, and the propaganda of the possible harm and risks that violations may cause to individuals and others.
2. Evaluate the use of relevant on-board vehicle information systems to strengthen the warning management of drivers' dangerous driving behaviors.

To Directorate General of Highways, Ministry of Transportation and Communications

1. Strengthen the inspection work force and implementation methods of the safety assessment operations of the subordinate supervision offices/stations to the Automobile Cargo Transportation Business, the Automobile Cargo Transportation within Designated Route(s) Enterprise, and the Container Truck Transportation Enterprise (the three freight industries). Supervise the industries to implement and strengthen safety management to ensure that it can achieve the goal of safety management supervision and provide guidance for the operators to improve safe operations.
2. The freight forwarders that have experienced major accidents are required to have

global satellite positioning system equipment in their vehicles, and set up a monitoring and management system for operating vehicles to implement safe speed management.

To Taoyuan City Government

1. Considering the radius of horizontal curve and the design speed of the curve section in this occurrence, and in accordance with the relevant regulations of the road traffic signs and markings rules, set up appropriate prohibition/warning signs or markings on the accident road to ensure the safety of road users.
2. Use the Road Traffic Safety Committee system to comprehensively inspect road curves in the jurisdiction whose design speed is far below the speed limit, and set up appropriate prohibition/warning signs or markings on such sharp curves.