



Sudden Unintended Acceleration Vehicle Handling Best Practices

In an effort to assist car wash operators in avoiding incidents of “sudden unintended acceleration”, whereby a vehicle – seemingly uncontrollably – accelerates, the following “best practices” have been gathered.

BEST PRACTICES:

Entrance Care

1. Have only experienced employees or customer-owners operate vehicles.
2. Have employees wear seatbelts when operating vehicles.

Washing Care

1. Provide sufficient conveyor spacing when washing.

Exit Care

1. Keep employees and customers to the side or behind vehicles.
2. Honk the horn prior to moving the vehicle from the conveyor in order to alert employees.
3. After exiting the conveyor, place the vehicle in park and engage the emergency brake.
4. Fully depress the brake pedal – and visually verify.
5. Start the engine.
6. Watch the tachometer and wait for engine speed to decline after ignition.
7. Release the emergency brake.
8. Place one hand on the ignition and the other hand on the gear shift.
9. Shift into drive and, if necessary due to unintended acceleration, turn off the engine immediately.
10. Slowly release the foot brake and proceed.