

TWO VEHICLE RECONSTRUCTION

A two vehicle head-on collision occurred near the completion of a repair and resurfacing project. Litigation against the contractor alleged that a pavement edge created during the project caused a loss of control by the encroaching vehicle. Due to passage of time and the loss of physical evidence in the roadway, an analysis of photographic evidence was necessary. A reconstruction and the analysis of tire marks in the investigating officer's photographs established that the accident had not been caused by the pavement edge but a severe overcorrection by the encroaching driver.

**COMPLEX TRACTOR-TRAILER
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION**

Subsequent to striking a large section of debris on a highway, the driver of a commercial vehicle lost control, resulting in travel into the opposite travel lane and a second collision. The driver of the second vehicle, a tractor-trailer, alleged that his injuries were due to a third collision with an improperly secured piece of equipment which was being hauled on the commercial vehicle. An investigation and reconstruction of the matter found 1.) that loss-of control of the commercial vehicle had been caused by damaged steering; 2.) entry into the opposite lane was not preventable by steering or braking; 3.) the detachment of the cargo was caused by the direct impact of the tractor-trailer into the securement devices which restrained the cargo; 4.) the cargo had been properly restrained in accordance with federal regulations.

**CHAIN REACTION COLLISION
INVOLVING ROADSTER**

The driver of a late model European roadster attributed his loss of control to a mechanical defect which resulted in a chain reaction collision involving multiple vehicles. No mechanical problems or malfunctions with the steering or suspension were discovered; however, further inspection of a collision damaged tire and wheel revealed sidewall damage characteristic of operation in an under-inflated condition. A puncture to the tire was discovered upon further inspection and determined to have been the root cause of the under-inflation.

**ACCELERATION TESTING ON MINIVAN INVOLVED
IN COLLISION WITH STRAIGHT TRUCK**

Warning signs notifying approaching drivers of the exit and entrance drive to a mill were located in a valley between two rolling hills. A straight truck which had exited the mill was accelerating to speed when struck in the rear by a minivan. Acceleration testing of the straight truck at the collision site and a reconstruction of the collision revealed that the minivan had not been visible to the truck driver upon the truck's entrance into the roadway.