

Cement truck rolls, injures hitchhiker near Salem, Ore.

by Cheryl McDermott

A cement truck that rolled as the driver was turning onto an onramp of Interstate-5 north of Salem, Oregon Tuesday morning struck a hitchhiker standing nearby. Authorities reported the California man was sent to the hospital, but escaped life-threatening injuries.

Cement truck rolls over and strikes a hitchhiker standing nearby - OSP photo Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers responded to the accident scene about 10:15 a.m., May 15. Preliminary investigation determined that 41-year old Scott Van Holland of Amity, Oregon was traveling east on Brook Lake Road, trying to turn right onto the interstate onramp when the load shifted.

The 2007 Kenworth cement truck Van Holland was driving rolled on its side, striking a hitchhiker who was standing on the inside highway shoulder at the top of the on-ramp.

The hitchhiker, identified as 48-year old George Tallant of Shasta Lake, California, was transported by ambulance to Salem Hospital for treatment of what troopers described as "non life-threatening" injuries.

Van Holland, the cement truck driver, was not injured.

According to an OSP news release, troopers from the Salem Area Command office are continuing the investigation and no citations were issued at the time of the release.

Troopers were assisted on scene by local emergency responders and Oregon Department of Transportation personnel.

Cement truck rolls, injures hitchhiker near Salem, Ore. by Cheryl McDermott