

# VOLVO CUSTOMERS TALK SAFETY

**“THE IMPACT WAS SO SEVERE THE CAB HAD TO BE SEVERED FROM THE CHASSIS. BUT OUR DRIVER WALKED AWAY UNHARMED.”**

Charles Morgan, Director of Logistics, Franklin Logistics



Franklin Logistics believes a comfortable driver is a safer driver. That was one of the reasons they switched to Volvo trucks two years ago. That decision may have saved the life of one of their drivers.

“We are a very safety-conscious fleet, and made the switch to Volvo trucks in 2004 because of Volvo’s reputation for safety and driver comfort. Earlier this year, those safety features helped one of our drivers walk away unscathed from a very serious accident.

On February 26, 2006, we had three Volvo 670s traveling together down I-55 loaded with furniture headed for Texas. The driver of the middle unit suddenly became ill, reached for her water bottle, then blacked out. Traveling in the left lane at approximately 65 mph, the truck veered left into the median and crashed into a heavy stand of pine trees. The next thing our driver remembers is waking, opening the driver’s-side door and exiting the vehicle. Aside from minor cuts and bruising, she was unharmed.

The impact was so severe it demolished the truck’s hood and radiator, crushed the right side of the unit and tore off the high-rise roof. The only axle left under the chassis was the tandem. In fact, the towing company had to cut the cab from the chassis to remove the wreckage from the trees. But all the Volvo safety features performed as designed and maintained the integrity of the driver compartment. The engine dropped down and under the cab upon impact, the steering column broke away and the air bag deployed. I am convinced that had our driver been in any other brand of truck, she would not have walked away from this incident without severe injury.

When you buy a truck, you are told a lot of things about what it can do. But until you experience an incident such as this, you take those things with a grain of salt. This event convinced us that Volvo absolutely makes the safest trucks on the market, and that fact will certainly influence our future purchase decisions.”



VN 780

Location: Houston, MS

Type: Dedicated carrier to Franklin Corp., a furniture manufacturer

Equipment: 54 total tractors, 160 trailers. 38 tractors are Volvo VN 670 and 780 units, all with Volvo D12-465 engines

Average annual mileage per truck: 125,000

Volvo Customer Since: 2004

For more information on Volvo, contact your local Volvo dealership or visit us online at [www.volvotrucks.us.com](http://www.volvotrucks.us.com).

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