

# MSFC Safety *Bulletin*

## Parked Vehicles Block Pedestrian Walkways



### What Happened?

- Some MSFC parking spaces are located against paved sidewalks, which are designated pedestrian walkways (such as 4200 complex parking lots).
- Depending on their size and configuration, some parked vehicles extend beyond the parking lot and into the walkway area. This can occur even when parking spaces are equipped with parking blocks designed to limit wheel position inside the space.
- Blocking of pedestrian walkways is more likely to occur when vehicles are backed into parking spaces, and with larger vehicles such as pickups.
- Blocked walkways increase the risk of injury from pedestrians walking into, or tripping and falling over, protruding vehicle parts. Sidewalk users may not notice and avoid trailer hitches and other accessories.

### What Can Be Done?

- Drivers should enter parking spaces head-on whenever possible, to avoid creating a potential hazard.
- After parking, drivers should check position of vehicle relative to sidewalks and other designated pedestrian walkways. Adjust position of vehicle within the parking space as needed to assure that the vehicle body and accessories do not extend into the walkway.
- Supervisors should remind personnel to maintain their awareness of this common hazard, which can lead to injuries through slips, trips, and falls.
- Sidewalk users should devote enough attention to walkway surfaces and possible obstructions to enable them to detect and avoid potential injury hazards.
- **Stay alert for changing conditions in the workplace that can introduce new hazards, and take appropriate actions to minimize exposure to those hazards.**