Recently a member’s Southeast Division experienced two incidents that underscore the need to emphasize **seat belt use** and remind about **cell phone restrictions**.

**Incident #1:** A Traffic Control Supervisor rear ended a tractor trailer at highway speed while distracted by his cell phone. He was lucky to survive this accident with only minor injuries. **Fortunately, he was wearing his seat belt.** See corresponding Safety Alert.

**Incident #2:** A Broom Tractor operator was moving on a steep slope beside the highway **despite being told by his supervisor NOT to operate on this slope**. The broom tractor rolled over more than once before reaching the bottom of the slope. He was lucky to survive this accident with only minor injuries. **Fortunately, he was wearing his seat belt.** See photos below.

Several lessons can be drawn from these events – but two of the most important are:

1) **Wear your seat belt at all times when operating vehicles or equipment!** Whether you are in the workzone, on a plant site or on the open roadway, wear your seat belt. It saved these workers from serious injury or worse.

2) **Do not be distracted by your cell phones or other electronic devices during safety sensitive work!** Distractions can kill.

**If you see others doing anything unsafe on our jobsites, stop the activity and notify your supervisor!**