

7 rules after an accident abroad

The right actions at the scene guarantee a successful claim recovery and protect the company from losses.



1. Photograph the whole scene, not just the scratch

A close-up of a dented bumper does not prove fault. You need an overall view: how both vehicles are positioned, road signs, road markings, and the registration plates of both sides (truck and trailer).

Tip: take a wide shot of the whole scene first, then move in closer for the damage itself.



2. Don't understand the language? Leave a note

If you are pressured to sign a statement in a language you don't understand, write by hand next to your signature, in English or your native language:

"I do not agree with guilt"

Tip: if you can't read what you're signing, add this note before you sign – not after.



3. Photograph the ENTIRE green card

The top section alone is not enough. The bottom of the page lists the exact insurer codes and the countries of validity – critically important for foreign insurers.

Tip: photograph the front and back of the card so all the details are clearly readable.



4. Save the dashcam footage

As soon as the incident happens, remove the memory card or lock the file so the footage is not overwritten while driving. This is the strongest evidence if the other party changes their account later.

Tip: copy the footage to your phone on the spot if you can.



5. Record witness details

If there were people nearby, approach them and ask for their contact information, so they can testify to the circumstances of the incident if needed.

Tip: get a name and phone number, and if they're willing, record a short video of their account.



6. Take the clearest copy of the statement form

The injured party should always try to keep the original or the most legible (first) copy of the accident statement form, not a faded duplicate.

Tip: these forms are usually carbon copies, and the later pages fade fast – try to keep the first one.



7. Report the incident immediately

Information must reach your manager or the people coordinating incidents right away, from the scene itself. This allows the evidence to be checked promptly, while the at-fault driver is still present.

Tip: call or message while you're still at the scene – not once you've reached a parking lot or warehouse.