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Acclaim for hero driver

A truckie who dragged a road-train driver from his wreck moments before it exploded has won a bravery award.

Scotts Transport tanker driver Kevin Sinkinson was on a routine drive 30km north of Port Wakefield, in South Australia, last month, when a car overtook him and clipped an oncoming road train carrying wool bales.

The road-train driver lost control of his rig, which tipped over after spilling diesel for 100m along the road. Sinkinson's quick thinking and driving skills helped him avoid hitting the car and the road train.

Sinkinson rushed from his truck to help a second truck driver, who had been travelling behind him, to pull the road-train driver to safety just moments before the rig exploded.

"A tremendous amount of thanks and praise must also go to Wayne Stocker who was also instrumental in pulling the road-train driver to safety," Sinkinson says.

Police praised Sinkinson's driving skills in avoiding the wreckage and an aftermath that could have been far worse.

"The amazing bit of driving was by the driver of the fuel tanker [Sinkinson]," Crystal Brook Sergeant Michael Wynne says.

The bravery award was presented by Goodyear Australia. "Every day transport workers such as Kevin Sinkinson make an enormous contribution to road safety, and we're pleased to reward him for selfless and heroic efforts," says a spokesman.