

TOOLBOX TALKS

Vehicle Hazards

A recent Health and Safety Executive Report shows that two thirds of fatal injuries to workers were of four kinds:

- Fall from Height
- Being struck by a moving object
- Being trapped by a collapsing structure
- Being struck by a vehicle

Most significantly around 12% of the total number of fatal injuries to workers were attributed to workplace vehicle injury (*See HSE RIDDOR 2011/2012*)

Vehicle at work accidents can be identified through four kinds of accident:

- Struck by a moving vehicle
- People falling from a vehicle
- Materials falling from a vehicle
- Collapse/overturn of a vehicle

Through applying basic safety principles on site the risks associated with working near moving vehicles can be significant reduced:

- When out in areas where vehicles are likely to be moving, always wear your high-vis clothing provided in accordance with your site Risk Assessment and Assignment Instructions
- Stay alert at all times, using all your senses. Keep a lookout and listen for vehicles that are moving. Wherever possible always stick to the designated walkways
- Never approach a moving vehicle and if necessary only approach stationary vehicles from the side, never from the front rear
- Risks are dramatically increased whilst vehicles are reversing
 - Individual vehicles should be fitted with both audible and visible warning alarms such as flashing beacons/hazard lights.
 - Never cross at the rear of a reversing vehicle as the driver may not have seen you and will not be expecting you to be there.
 - Systems should be considered to reduce the number of reversing vehicles, such as one-way traffic, drivers given instruction as they arrive on site and told where to deliver and who is the on-site trained 'Banksman'.
 - If you are not a Banksman, **do not** give signals to a driver, unless in an emergency. The emergency stop signal is done by raising both arms upwards with the palms facing the vehicle
- Even if stationary and parked, **never** walk under mechanical devices projecting from vehicles such as crane booms or forklift forks etc.
- If required to undertake vehicle searches on site ensure that you follow the site specific procedures in your Assignment Instructions. For further information on associated hazards please see Toolbox Talk Vehicle Searches

Vehicle Hazards – Questions

Q1. According to HSE Statistics, what percentage of work-related fatalities can be attributed to workplace vehicle incidents?

A

Q2. Identify four kinds of incident involving vehicles at work.

A1

A2

A3

A4

Q3. Who is the only person allowed to direct or assist drivers in reversing vehicles on site?

A

Q4. In an emergency what hand signal should be given to the driver?

A

Q5. Prior to approaching a vehicle what must you ensure?

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Employee Name:

Employee Number:

Manager's Name:

Date: