

# **Vehicle and Transport** Safety at Work

SOUTHALLS

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### WHO WE ARE

- Established 2003, strong family values
- Backed by ex-enforcement officers, and industry specialists.
- 20+ consultants
- No nonsense realistic approach
- Designers and owners of Safety Cloud
- Safety Cloud and Safety Plus



### WHAT ARE WE GOING TO COVER?

- Traffic flow
- Segregation
- Blind spots
- Dealing with visitors
- Loading and unloading
- New technology





### WHY BOTHER? Fedex UK Ltd fined £533k

A parcel carrier has been fined after an employee was seriously injured when he was struck by a forklift truck.

In the early morning of 2 November 2017, an employee was walking across the depot at Burntwood Business Park, near Cannock, Staffordshire when he was struck by a reversing <u>forklift truck</u>. The worker was trapped on the ground by the forklift truck and had to be freed by colleagues using a pallet truck. He suffered serious fractures to his arm and soft tissue injuries to his legs. He was off work for several months.

Investigating, the <u>HSE</u> found there was <u>inadequate segregation of forklift trucks</u> and <u>pedestrians</u> within the workplace. A risk assessment had been carried out but had not identified the importance of achieving robust segregation in an area where frequent forklift truck movements took place.

Fedex UK Ltd of Express House, Holly Lane, Atherstone pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2 (1) of the <u>Health and Safety at Work Act 1974</u> and has been fined  $\pm 533,000$  and ordered to pay costs of  $\pm 10,033.39$ .

After the hearing, HSE Inspector Wendy Campbell said: "Those in control of work have a responsibility to provide safe methods of working and a safe working environment. Collisions between vehicles and pedestrians can be avoided if the

workplace layout is properly planned, effectively segregated and suitable systems of work are introduced. If physical barriers and a suitable system of work had been in place the injuries sustained by this employee could have been prevented."



## Forklift truck overturn risks ignored

Chorley based firm Staveley's Eggs Ltd has been fined after a forklift truck overturned on a slope, trapping the driver.

On 1 December 2018 an employee of the firm had been driving the <u>forklift truck (FLT)</u> at the company's premises at Goosnargh Near Preston, when the truck overturned, trapping the driver between the truck and the ground. He sustained serious life changing crush injuries as a result.

Investigating, the <u>HSE</u> found that the areas where FLTs were driven had significant changes in gradient which were not a suitable surface for the type of FLTs in use. The company failed to both identify and control the risk of FLT overturn.

Staveley's Eggs Ltd of Coppull, Chorley pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2 (1) of the <u>Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974</u>. The company were fined £60,000 with costs of £4,259.42.



After the hearing, HSE Inspector Steven Boyd commented: "This incident could so easily have been avoided by ensuring the area where FLTs were driven was free of slopes and damage, and that a suitable FLT was used for the site."

### **SENTENCING GUIDELINES**

From 1st February 2016, the Sentencing Council issued new guidelines for the sentencing regarding health and safety offences.

Result: Increased fines in many health and safety cases.

Company with an annual turnover of up to £10 million (i.e. a small organisation) was fined £385,000 following conviction after a not guilty plea. Under the new sentencing guidelines, the penalty fine could range from between £540,000 to £2.8 million.



### **TRAFFIC FLOW**

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### **TRAFFIC FLOW**





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GAME CHANGING OUTCOMES | CUT COSTS | SAVE TIME | REDUCE RISK | ENGAGE EMPLOYEES

### SIGNAGE







### **ONE-WAY SYSTEMS**

- Ideal control
- Even better with separate entrances and exits!
- Use building, stock, etc. as islands...but consider blindspots
- Clear signage

### BANKSMEN

- To help reversing
- Help where MHE needs to interact with public
- Trained
- Agree signals with driver
- Positioning
  - Safety
  - Visibility



### **SEGREGATION**

By law, pedestrians or vehicles must be able to use a traffic route without causing danger to the health or safety of people working near it.

Gold Standard = Full separation between vehicles and pedestrians by physical barriers.

- Eliminate the risk!



### SEGREGATION

Other ways to achieve or improve segregation include:

- Temporary Barriers
- Pedestrian Walkways and Crossings
- Traffic Warning Signs

These control measures are further down the Hierarchy of Control.



### WALKWAYS AND BARRIERS (examples)







### **SEGREGATION**

Pedestrian or Vehicle exclusion zones:

- During the loading and unloading process
- Clear signage
- Yard supervision



### **SEGREGATION**

Limiting pedestrian exposure to vehicles.

- Dedicated customer parking areas and loading/unloading zones.
- Site Rules e.g. '2-meter clear' policy



 Areas for authorised personnel only ('No Customer Access')



### **BLIND SPOTS**

Avoid sharp or blind bends on vehicle routes as far as possible.

Where you cannot avoid them, steps should be taken to allow enough visibility of vehicles and pedestrians. Such as:

- Convex mirrors on corners
- Limiting the height of stock in areas
- Controlling the positioning of stock and high-sided vehicles.
- Re-designing site layout and pedestrian routes.

#### **BE AWARE OF CHANGING SITE CONDITIONS**



- Customers
- Contractor management
- Delivery drivers
  - $\circ$  Exclusion zones
  - Welfare
  - Visibility









- Customers
- Contractor management
- Delivery drivers
  - $\circ$  Exclusion zones
  - Welfare
  - Visibility
- MHE unauthorised use





### LOADING & UNLOADING OPERATIONS

- Designated Zones which are clearly marked
- Controlling Goods-In Drivers and other pedestrians
- Prevention of Vehicle Drive-Aways (Next Section)
- Suitability of lifting equipment e.g.
  maximum safe load capacity type of lift truck
- Condition of the yard surface; should be flat and free of potholes
- Lorry stabilizers during crane use

#### Goods-In vs. Customer Collections

 Protecting customers loading their own vehicles.



### DRIVEAWAYS

- Becoming more common
- Loading bays driving off with FLT driver still on board in an artic
- Yards driving off when being loaded/unloaded causes FLT to tip
- Vehicle creep
- Lack of communication
- Failure to prevent vehicles moving





### **PREVENTING DRIVEAWAYS**

- Safe system of work
- Safe stop
- Chocks
- Driver out of cab?
- Take keys
- Steering wheel covers
- Restrain trailer to loading bay
- Traffic lights
- Signage



### **TECHNOLOGY**

Forklift:

- Blue Spot Technology
- Blaxtair Technology
- Speed limiters (note: also controls lifting equipment speed on some models)
- Interlocked seatbelts and/or replacing with a bright colour
- Blue beacons to indicate seatbelt use.
- Pin-pad or keypad access.

#### Other:

- Traffic light systems
- Cameras on vehicles (e.g. reversing)
- White-noise reversing beepers





### Do you have any questions for us?



### Do you need help?

- Gap Analysis
- Safety Cloud Software
- Consultancy Support
- Specialist support asbestos, DSEAR, legionella
- Training





## **Questions or need more help?**

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