



Load and Securing Risk Assessment Guidance

Question				
Vehicle and load securing equipment suitability				
		Yes	No	N/A
1	Is the vehicle/trailer suitable for the load to be carried?			
2	Does the vehicle/trailer have the correct securing equipment supplied or fitted?			
3	Is the securing equipment in good and sound condition and suitable for the goods carried?			
4	Is it a full load?			
5	Can the load be loaded against the headboard – is the headboard in sound condition and strong enough to resist movement of the load? *			
6	Will the goods extend above the headboard? *			
7	Is the load of a multi-drop/collection nature? **			
8	Will the load be stacked? ***			
Notes	*Consider temporary blocking, secondary headboard or alternative means of preventing forward movement. **Action will need to be taken to prevent directional movement of part loads. ***Is the base row being loaded stable and level? Additional lashing will be required.			
Securing the load				
		Yes	No	N/A
9	Can the load be secured from ground level with suitable ratchet straps or equivalent?			
10	Has the load been planned – heaviest stable items at the bottom?			
11	If using pallets are the pallets in a good condition and suitable for the goods loaded on them?			
12	If goods are on pallets are they adequately secured to the pallet? (shrink-wrapped, banded or other suitable material)			
13	Are pallets paired in height to assist top over straps – are top heavy or unstable goods/pallets secured adequately? *			
14	Is there a need to gain access to the loading bed to secure/ position the load? **			
15	Does the load securing method comply with the DfT documented CoP? Which stipulates loads must be secured to prevent the total weight of the load moving forward and half of the weight of the load moving backwards and sideways. More information here :			
Notes	*Pairing pallets will assist with securing goods to the vehicle deck – unstable goods/ pallets will require additional blocking. **Is the vehicle supplied with an access ladder and suitable hand holds? Alternatively, is a platform provided to gain safe entry/exit from the vehicle? Refer companies SSOW for working at height.			
Is the load secured safely?				
		Yes	No	
16	Can the load slide or topple forward or back?			
17	Can the load slide or topple off the side?			
18	Is the load unstable?			
19	Is load securing equipment damaged or worn?			
20	Is there anything loose that might fall off?			
Notes	If the answer is yes to any of the questions 16 – 20 reassess the load-securing requirements or securing equipment.			

For more information
Email: r.engley@rha.uk.net

Call 01932 838914