



Risk Assessment Load Securing General Haulage

What are the hazards?		Load make-up		Action required	Further action required	By whom	Date
Uniform light pallet load up to 400kgs	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Full-fit load – use of hangings straps. Part loads – further action must be taken to prevent movement of pallets on the vehicle.		Review based on customer and safety needs and the type of securing equipment required.	Transport Manager or equivalent with driver/loaders input.		
Uniform heavy pallet load of more than 400kgs	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	All goods must be secured to the bed of the vehicle with ratchet straps or equivalent system – where parts loads are carried forward and rearward movement must also be prevented.		As above	As above		
Stacked loads	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	When stacking goods/pallets ensure the lower row provides a level stable platform for the row above. The load must be stable without restraints.		Review the need to place boarding or suitable alternative material between the layers. Load the heaviest stable items on the bottom row and ensure the bottom items are strong enough to withstand the weight imposed without collapse or movement.	As above		
Cannot load up to the headboard	—	Alternative means of preventing forward movement must be considered – i.e. additional blocking, temporary headboard, sling lashings or additional top over frictional lashings.		As above	As above		
Loading above the headboard	—	Loading above the headboard is permitted but steps must be taken to demonstrate the load is prevented from moving forward by means of blocking or temporary headboard extension or sling lashings. The weight of the load will dictate which means need to be considered.		*If loads are frequently carried above a conventional headboard height consideration should be given to fabricating a suitable higher headboard assembly.	As above		
Multi-drop/ collection loads	—	The same rules will apply as for part-loads. Steps will need to be taken to prevent directional movement of goods/ pallets with a diminishing and/or changing load.		Goods will need to be secured to the bed of the vehicle – review the type of securing equipment required. Consideration to individual axle weights will need to be considered when securing loads in these particular operations.	As above		

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Correctly securing loads from ground level?	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Where a suitable securing method is not provided as part of the vehicle fabrication a review of how the goods will be strapped needs to be considered.	If there is a need to access the vehicle refer to the company's SSOW for working at height. Alternatively, consider telescopic pole for placing straps in place. **	As above		
Securing pallets of varying heights	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Where goods of varying height are carried – where possible pair pallets of similar height to ensure straps are equally tensioned across the width of the trailer.	In the case of individual high or unstable pallets additional blocking and securing may be necessary to prevent toppling of cargo.	As above		
Can the load slide or topple forward or back?	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes – review, repack, reload and re-secure with suitable equipment, use of headboard, etc.	—	As above		
Can the load slide or topple off the side?	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes – source suitable retention equipment, consider use of sideboards/bars, repack or reload.	—	As above		
Is the load unstable?	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes – do not move the vehicle. Seek immediate assistance and reload in a correct/safe manner.	—	As above		
Is load securing equipment damaged or worn?	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes – do not use. Source and replace with suitable alternative equipment.	—	As above		
Is there anything loose that might fall off?	Full <input type="checkbox"/> Part Load <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes – review/reassess the load and securing equipment. Repack or reload if necessary.	—	As above		

** See: http://www.rhaonline.co.uk/vehicle-security--safety/proplacer_---loa-005-.html

HSE Five Steps to Risk Assessment can be found at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/fivesteps.htm>

Further information on **working at height** can be found at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/fallsfromvehicles/access.htm>

Further information available on **loading and lashing** at: http://www.rha.uk.net/members/safe_and_secure_loading/

HSE Haulage and Distribution web pages can be found at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/logistics/haulage-distribution.htm>

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