

England, Scotland and Wales
Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, regulation 17

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)

Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)

Northern Ireland
Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993, regulation 17

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (PUWER)

Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (LOLER)

Workplace Transport

Vehicles at the work site continue to be a major cause of fatal and serious injuries. Every year there are over 5,000 incidents involving transport in the workplace. About 50 of these result in people being killed.

Workers can get knocked down, run over or crushed against fixed parts by vehicles, plant and trailers. Workers can also fall from vehicles when getting on or off, working at height, or when loading or unloading.

What do I have to do?

Consider whether there is an easier, safer way of completing the workplace transport. Your risk assessment must consider all workplace transport activities such as loading and unloading. It will help if you:

- Look carefully at all the vehicles and people moving round your workplace.
- Mark traffic and pedestrian movements on a plan so you can see where pedestrians and vehicles interact.
- Identify improvements that will reduce the contact between pedestrians and vehicles.
- Remember to include less frequent tasks, such as waste skip changes.
- Consider delivery drivers, as they are particularly vulnerable.

How can I do it?

There are three key areas employers should consider in order to manage workplace transport effectively:

- Safe site
- Safe driver
- Safe vehicle

Safe site

- Plan your workplace so that pedestrians are safe from vehicles.
- Provide a one-way system if possible.
- Provide separate routes for pedestrians and vehicles where possible.
- Avoid reversing where possible.
- Provide appropriate crossing points where pedestrians and traffic meet.
- Use 'Highway Code' signs to indicate vehicle routes, speed limits and pedestrian crossings.
- Make sure lighting is adequate where people and vehicles are working.
- Make sure road surfaces are firm and even.
- Make sure there are safe areas for loading and unloading.
- If possible, provide separate car parking for visitors, as they may not know your site.

Safe driver

- Train lift truck operators.
- Reassess lift truck operators at regular intervals, such as every three to five years, or when new risks arise, such as changes to working practices.
- Train drivers of other vehicles to a similar standard.
- Make sure all drivers are supervised (including those visiting the site).

Safe vehicle

- Ensure vehicles are suitable for the purpose for which they are used.
- Maintain vehicles in good repair, paying particular attention to the braking system, steering, tyres, lights, mirrors and specific safety systems.
- Where possible, remove the need for people to climb up on vehicles. One way to do this is by providing gauges and controls that are accessible from ground level.
- Reduce the risk of falling when people have to climb onto a vehicle or trailer by providing well-constructed ladders, non-slip walkways and guard rails where possible.
- Provide reversing aids, such as CCTV, where appropriate.
- Fit rollover protective structures and use seat belts where fitted.

Case Study #1:

Scenario	Solutions
<p>A forklift truck operator was driving his truck in a yard that was poorly lit and did not have designated traffic lanes for industrial trucks or other vehicles. As the forklift operator drove across the yard, a large industrial truck started to reverse into the yard.</p> <p>Though the truck driver had checked his mirrors and the truck was fitted with reversing alarms, both drivers failed to notice that the forklift was in the truck's path. The truck hit the forklift, which tipped over onto its side. The forklift operator, who was not wearing his seat belt, was trapped underneath. He was pronounced dead at the scene, despite the efforts of the plant emergency response team and the emergency medical service.</p>	<p>The forklift operator's death could have been avoided if the employer had implemented the following safety improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installing better lighting in the yard• Designating traffic lanes for trucks and other vehicles• Ensuring all vehicles are equipped with reversing alarms that work effectively• Training employees to wear a seat belt when operating forklifts and other vehicles



Case Study #2:

Scenario	Solution
<p>While working on the construction of a new school, a maintenance engineer took a short cut across the vehicle route rather than using the pedestrian pathway.</p> <p>As the building work was nearing completion, banksmen were not felt to be necessary for reversing vehicles. There were no barriers in place to prevent pedestrians from crossing vehicle routes, and there were no signs to warn of the dangers of moving vehicles.</p> <p>The maintenance engineer was struck by a reversing dumper truck whose driver had failed to see him behind the vehicle. The maintenance engineer died at the scene from multiple injuries.</p>	<p>The maintenance engineer's death could have been avoided if the following had been done to ensure a safe work site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using adequately trained banksmen when needed, even when work is nearing completion• Barriers in place to keep pedestrians and vehicles apart• Signs warning of moving vehicles

