



Safe Use of Mobile Plant

Audience: Plant Operatives.

Presenter: GHSEA, Site Manager, Site Engineers, Trade Supervisors



The Risk

Mobile plant should be treated and operated with respect as improper use could have serious or even fatal consequences. In 2021 – 2022, of the 123 workers killed, 23 were struck by a moving vehicle, the second biggest cause of death after falls from height.

Therefore, mobile plant should only be operated by trained, competent personnel who have the appropriate driving licence, CPCS or NPORS card.



Responsibilities – Plant Operatives

- Do not operate any plant without first completing your daily checks and recording on the form 051A daily plant checklist.
- Report any defects identified to your line manager and do not use plant that has a safety critical defect e.g. seatbelt broken, brakes not working.
- You must wear your seatbelt when operating ride on plant.
- You must not use a mobile phone (even hands free) when operating mobile plant.
- Do not leave keys in unattended mobile plant – this can result in disciplinary action.
- Comply with the speed limit on site.
- You must dismount from a dumper before loading even if it has a cab.
- You must have a valid fit to operate plant certificate issued by an occupational health provider.



Responsibilities – Site Team (Site Engineers, Site Managers)

- Undertake a check of, and take copies of driving licences, competency tickets and fit to drive certificates during inductions.
- Keep keys and key codes locked away when plant is not in use.
- Have a plant key allocation process and enforce operatives following this.
- Complete a site specific risk assessment prior to plant being driven through occupied areas to ensure that suitable and sufficient control measures e.g. banksman are in place.
- Undertake a weekly check to ensure that the daily plant check sheet is being completed by operatives.
- Ensure suitable and sufficient physical segregation is in place between mobile plant and pedestrians.





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All mobile plant must have the following:

- Any plant over 9 tonnes must have CCTV reversing cameras fitted.
- Seat belts.
- Operational amber and green (seatbelt) flashing beacons.
- Registered, insured and taxed if going to travel through occupied areas.
- Up to date thorough examination certificate if it is capable of undertaking lifting activities.
- Working front and rear lights.
- Tyres / tracks in a good state of repair.



Maintaining Mobile Plant

You will need to access places where you check coolant levels, oil and grease points.

Many of these are accessible from the ground, but some are not. If you have to climb onto the machine, you must ensure that there is a safe means of access.

If you have any concerns, raise them with you Line Manager / Supervisor.



Refuelling Mobile Plant

Care must be taken when refuelling to prevent spillages onto the ground or come into contact with exhausts which could result in a fire.

Spill kit and fire extinguishers should be in the vicinity of all fuel bowsers.

An Enviropad should be placed on the ground under refuelling points to prevent any spillages.

