



Traffic Management

Audience: Site Operatives, Site Visitors, Sales Staff, Plant Operators.

Presenter: GHSEA, Site Manager, Trade Supervisors



The Risk

Collision between people and construction plant are the second biggest cause of death on a construction site and one of the largest causes of major injuries within the construction industry. Remember, a large machine will always come off better than you will!



Responsibilities – Site Management

Site management are there to ensure that everyone can move safely around site without being struck by construction plant. This is achieved by a number of measures and include:

- Careful planning of traffic management, a visual traffic management board must be displayed in or by the site office and canteen, which is updated regularly;
- Designated pedestrian walkways free from trip hazards that are away from scaffold loading bays and waste chutes; also ideally routed away from roads;
- Robust barriers when walkways need to be near traffic routes; these must be metal or sand filled barriers not rope, bunting, plastic chain or mesh barriers as these will not be sufficient to alert you to the presence a vehicle if it is coming towards you;
- Crossing points have “crossing hoops”;
- Separate entrance gates for people and plant;
- Suitable parking arrangements; and
- Speed restrictions are displayed.



Responsibilities – Pedestrians

It is extremely important that everyone on site follows the site rules, abides by the traffic management plan and instructions of site management. Anyone on site must ensure they:

- Use the walkways provided and do not walk on the roads;
- Look both ways when using a crossing point;
- Do not move barriers; if site operatives need to load out then they can remove the barriers for the brief period of this task but the barriers must then be replaced as soon as the task has been completed;
- Use the thumbs up technique if they have to pass closely by working plant. This achieved by stopping, making eye contact with the driver, giving the thumbs up signal and waiting for the driver to acknowledge the thumbs up before passing near the machine.
- Report any damaged walkways to site management;
- Do not use their mobile phone when walking around site; and
- Wear high visibility clothing, safety boots and hard hats whilst on site.



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Responsibilities – Plant Operators

Machine drivers are pivotal when it comes to safe traffic management as poor decision making by plant operators could lead to a catastrophic event. All plant operators must:

- Be qualified to drive the plant or machinery and hold the relevant CPCS/NPORS card and full driving licence;
- Not operate the plant if they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- Give way to pedestrians that are not in walkways;
- Ensure that they understand the traffic management plan;
- Not speed;
- Ensure that mirrors and reversing cameras are kept clean and they are aligned correctly;
- Request the use of a banksman when manoeuvring in confined areas; and
- Not use a mobile phone when operating the plant.

If you are on site and feel that these rules are not being followed then you **MUST** report your concerns to your supervisor or site management.

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