Transport Statistics

- 45 workers were killed and over 5,000 injured in workplace transport accidents in 2008/09
- These figures don’t include workers injured or killed on public roads while driving for work
- Forklift trucks are the vehicle most commonly involved in accidents, but there are a significant number of accidents involving Large Goods Vehicles (LGV) and cars
- Being struck by a moving vehicle was the third highest cause of accidental death in the workplace (2008/09)

What Is Workplace Transport?

“Any vehicle or piece of mobile equipment, which is used by employers, employees or self employed people in any work setting”.

It covers a wide range of vehicles e.g. lift trucks and heavy goods vehicles.

Common Workplace Transport Accidents

- People struck by a moving vehicle
- People falling from a vehicle
- People injured while inside a vehicle during a collision
- Materials falling from a vehicle onto a person
- Collapse/overturn of a vehicle (injuring the driver).
- Approximately 25% of the workplace vehicle deaths occur while the vehicles are reversing
Site Layout and Design: Good Practice

- Separate vehicles and pedestrians where possible
- Prevent reversing vehicles where possible - one way systems, use banksmen
- Markings/signs clear
- Safe traffic routes
- Speed – decrease using speed humps, limits, etc.
- Lighting adequate and regular checks to ensure its working
- Provide parking areas for all vehicles
- Ensure users do not need to cross dangerous areas
- Good visibility
- Potholes are filled & Spills are cleared
- Loading bays should have at least one dedicated pedestrian exit point

Assessing the Risk

The Health and Safety Executive recommends a five-step approach:

1) Look at your workplace to determine where and how vehicles are used.
   - Include forklifts, deliveries, cars for staff use, vehicles on the public road and construction vehicles, etc.

2) Decide who might be harmed and how.
   - Where do vehicles come into contact with pedestrians? Are they at risk? Are some groups more at risk than others?

3) Consider the risks.
   - Are there already measures in place to deal with the risks, such as restricted vehicle movement areas, speed bumps, speed limits, warning signs and driver training? What maintenance systems are in place? Are employees instructed to keep traffic routes clear?

4) Record your findings if you have five or more employees.

5) Regularly review the assessment.
   - If any significant changes or incidents take place, make sure that precautions are still adequate to deal with the risks.
Systems of Work

Safe systems of work should include:

1) Information:
   - Make sure all drivers have sufficient information so they can work safely this may include issuing maps showing routes and parking areas

2) Supervision:
   - Visitors, inexperienced or young workers should be accompanied to keep them from vehicle only areas.
   - Consider the use of a banksman for vehicles when reversing.

3) Controls:
   - Restrict vehicle movements (including deliveries) at peak times (e.g. start, lunchtime, end of shift) when there are more people moving around.
   - Prohibit access to vehicle areas for those who don’t need to be there. training: assess training needs and provide training for drivers.

4) People:
   - Check suitability of employees for driving roles and regularly check driving licenses.
   - Arrange medicals for drivers where appropriate and required under legislation.
   - Monitor driver hours and make sure regular breaks are taken.
   - Smoking - remind staff that smoking in work vehicles is against the law and enforce the rules

5) PPE:
   - People who need to work near moving vehicles should wear high visibility garments, appropriate protective clothing (such as steel toe capped boots and hard hats)

Safety Loading

Unsafe loads on vehicles injure more than 1,200 people a year and cost UK businesses millions of pounds in damaged goods.

Loads
   - An unsecured load shifts inside the trailer and is more difficult to unload. The load may have to be unloaded manually or can fall on to people.
   - Even if the load was packed carefully, if it is not secured and shifts in transit, it presents a risk on The road and when it arrives at its destination.
   - Loading and unloading can be extremely time-pressured – with no time to stop and carefully consider the risks of unloading an unstable load.
   - Spilled loads can lead to road closures and cause significant delay and congestion.
   - People fall
   - Many falls from vehicles occur during loading and unloading you don’t need to fall far to be injured seriously
   - Falls can take place when climbing on/off & working from the trailer beds
Useful Links:

HSE links:

Workplace Transport Checklist:

https://www.hse.gov.uk/forms/transport/wtchk1.pdf

Workplace transport safety (INDG199):


Vehicle load safety: Load safety - How to secure loads safely:

http://www.hse.gov.uk/workplacetransport/loadsafety/how-to-secure.htm

Other Useful Links:

IOSH Guidance on workplace transport: 43 Workplace transport – IOSH

https://www.iosh.co.uk/news_and_events/connect/43_workplace_transport.aspx

Ceramic Industry workplace transport tool kit (must be logged in to download)

http://tinyurl.com/2wxu9ay