

FOR ISSUE TO ALL SSE

SAFETY FAMILY IN ACTION

UNSECURED LOAD IN DELIVERY VEHICLE – Falling Objects

What happened?

A valve weighing 650 kg was being delivered to site. On opening the delivery vehicle rear door it was found that the valve and the pallet to which it was attached had toppled through 90 degrees and came to rest against the side curtain.

The pallet supporting the valve had not been secured to the vehicle floor. Additionally, the pallet was too small and not sufficiently rated for the load.

During transit the load moved and toppled to its side coming to rest on vehicles side curtains which prevented a potential fall from the vehicle.

The potential for injury, or worse, to the general public or SSE staff is obvious given the size and weight of this object.



What action is required?



1. Ensure that all deliveries, especially those known to contain heavy loads, are received in an appropriate and secure area (barriered if necessary) to minimise the risk to people or property should a load become unstable.
2. For deliveries of goods on vehicles fitted with side curtains, first look for bulges in the curtains and then observe the contents from the rear doors to check for any signs the load may have moved.
3. If you are unloading a vehicle, do not assume the pallet is the correct size and rating for the load, always check.



1. Allow only competent personnel to receive and off-load goods i.e. they are aware of the hazards arising from incorrectly secured loads and carry out an inspection prior to opening side curtains etc.
2. Ensure that a suitable and sufficient risk assessment is completed should loads need to be made safe by e.g. by lifting operations.



1. Ensure suitable loading/unloading areas are identified on your site and that procedures are in place to manage and control risks arising from unloading activities.
2. Check that all management systems are in place to ensure the correct procurement process is followed and that only competent hauliers are used.

Communication by (✓)	LSG	Notice board	✓	Tool-box talk	✓	Team brief	
Communication complete by (✓)	1 week	2 weeks		1-month	✓	2-months	

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