

For issue to Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (Employees and Contract Partners)

SHE COMMUNICATION

Are your trailer wheels secure?

What happened:

Recently we have experienced several incidents involving trailer wheels working loose or becoming detached whilst in transit. Each incident was different but one common finding is that the current type of wheel stud retention device fitted to most of our trailers is not always effective. Because of this we have decided to introduce a different retention clip which has been proven to better secure wheel fixings and help prevent wheels coming loose.

- Our current choice of wheel fixing retention clip is shown in **Image 1** below.
- Our new choice of trailer wheel retention clip is shown in **Image 2** below.
- **Image 3** below shows our new retention clips in situ on a four-stud arrangement.



Image 1



Image 2



Image 3

Change management:

- A project is currently underway to check the roadworthiness of all trailers within the SSEN fleet and fit the new wheel fixing retention clips and associated indicators. This project started in December and will be completed as soon as practicable in January or February. The SSE Fleet Team are completing a similar exercise with all SSE trailers.
- Notwithstanding the obvious improvements associated with this development, the introduction of these new trailer wheel fixing retention clips means that pre-use checks on all trailers will need to consider the new devices and ensure they are in place and ok. The guidance provided on page 2 of this SHE Communication should be used when completing pre-use checks on trailers with these new retention clips fitted.
- Existing pre-use checks on trailers fitted with old wheel fixing retention devices (ref **Image 1**) should be completed until such time that all trailers are fitted with the new retention clips.



Pre-use trailer checks:

- 1) Pre-use trailer checks on trailers fitted with the new retaining clips should determine whether the wheel fixing clips and associated indicators are fitted in accordance with the images provided below:
 - **Image 4** – complete four-stud arrangement with two clips and four indicators fitted.
 - **Image 5** – incomplete five-stud arrangement (partly fitted) showing two yellow position indicators fitted to one stud, and two new clips fitted to the remaining four studs.
 - **Image 6** – complete five-stud arrangements with two clips and six indicators fitted.
- 2) When completing pre-use trailer checks, our existing ‘Vehicle Check and Defect Book’ should be used to record conclusions.
- 3) Trailers with defects identified should not be used; all defects must be reported to your Manager/ Supervisor and the SSE Fleet Team.



Image 4

Yellow Position Indicators

Fixing Clips



Image 5



Image 6

At Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks – if it's not safe, we don't do it.

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

Issued by: Richard Gough – Head of Safety, Health and Environment

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