

Safe Working Practices:

SWP- 26 Reversing of HGV's, Use of a Banksman

REVERSING HGV'S

- 1.0 A site specific risk assessment is required for all sites where HGV reversing takes place.
- 1.1 Wherever possible the reversing of HGV's should be avoided.
- 1.2 Measures which help prevent the need for reversing include the introduction of one-way systems, drive through loading, keeping yard areas clear from obstructions etc.
- 1.3 It is recognised however that reversing is sometimes unavoidable. Therefore appropriate controls must be introduced.

SITE SAFETY

- 2.1 Local TMHUK site specific Transport Policies must be observed. See Company Intranet and Notice Boards.
- 2.2 Sites/Yards should be well organised, taking into account the space required by HGV's when reversing. Consideration must also be given to pedestrian access if required.
- 2.3 Reversing areas should be planned and clearly marked out. Areas can be marked out on the ground, warning signs erected and most importantly pedestrians prohibited/segregated from the area.
- 2.4 Reversing should only take place where is sufficient light for drivers and pedestrians to clearly see what they are doing.

BANKSMAN

- 3.0 Subject to a Risk Assessment and at the Site Safety Manager's discretion a Banksman may be required.
- 3.1 The nominated Banksman must receive appropriate training to enable him to confidently and safely direct the operation without interruption/distraction.
- 3.2 He will be familiar with the internationally recognised hand signals (see figure 1) and must ensure that the driver fully understands his commands. He (the Banksman) is in overall charge of the manoeuvre and must assert himself accordingly.
- 3.3 High visibility clothing and safety shoes are the minimum PPE requirements. It may be advisable to consider additional items such as High Vis gauntlets, for example in low light conditions.
- 3.4 If the driver loses sight of the Banksman he must know that he is to stop immediately and not proceed until he has re-established visual contact. If he is in any doubt he may need to apply his breaks, stop the engine, leave the cab and check behind the vehicle before continuing.
- 3.5 The Banksman will need to stand in a safe position from which to guide the reversing vehicle, without being in its way.
- 3.6 A sufficient number of trained Banksmen must be available where and when they are needed.

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- 3.7 Banksmen must be allowed to carryout their duties without interruption. For example pressure from other duties. They must not use mobile phones, MP3 players or similar distractions.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

- 4.0 Children and young persons are not permitted to take any part in this activity.

