

# TOOLBOX TALKS

## Vehicle Searches

Conducting vehicle searches may be considered an integral part of maintaining site security and if required on site you should always refer to your Assignment Instructions/Risk Assessments for any site-specific procedures and control measures. The purpose of this Toolbox Talk is to highlight some of the most significant hazards and some basic precautions to minimize the risks associated with conducting vehicle searches.

Potential hazards to consider when conducting vehicle searches are:

- Physical Assault/Verbal Aggression
- Crush Injury from moving vehicles ([Also see Toolbox Talk Vehicle Hazards](#))
- Slips, Trips, Fall when walking around vehicle
- Falls from height when climbing In/Out of vehicle cabs

Below are some simple control measures which can be implemented on site to reduce the likelihood of an incident occurring:

- Ensure that you are wearing the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as per your site Risk Assessment
- Always obtain the drivers prior permission and ensure they are present during the search
- If permission is not granted and you encounter any hostile behaviour do not continue with the search process. Use your Conflict Resolution skills and report any incidents to Site Management and the Control Room in accordance with the Incident/Near Miss Reporting Procedures ([Refer to Toolbox Talks Conflict Resolution, Incident Reporting and Near Miss Reporting](#))
- Ensure the area around the vehicle is clear of obstructions and be vigilant to any potential slip, trip fall hazards such as kerbs, ramps, and weigh-station pad
- Never access/exit lorry cabs/cars from the road side
- Check steps to high vehicles for stability of footplate and contamination of foreign objects (they may be muddy/wet and sometimes drivers have been known to leave screwdrivers or spanners in them)
- When entering or exiting the cab make sure you maintain a minimum of 3 points of contact. Always use the handrails fitted to the cab. Never jump down from the cab and do not attempt to carry anything in your hands
- Know where the kerb is – watch where you put your feet

## Vehicle Searches – Questions

Q1. What documents should you refer to for site specific search procedures?

A .....

Q2. Name two potential hazards associated with conducting vehicle searches?

A1 .....

A2 .....

Q3. What must you obtain prior to conducting a search?

A .....

Q4. From which side must you never access/exit a lorry cab?

A .....

Q5. How many points of contact must you maintain on entering or exiting the cab?

A .....

Employee Name: .....

Employee Number: .....

Manager's Name: .....

Date: .....