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## Overview

### **What this standard is about**

This standard is about planning and carrying out the loading of a goods vehicle in the light of information about the delivery requirements and schedule. It covers checking that the vehicle is correctly loaded before driving on the public road, whether or not they have loaded it themselves. It covers knowledge of how a load should be secured, the physical checks a driver needs to make and the documentation they need to complete to comply with legal and organisational requirements before the start of each driving duty. It includes the need for appropriate communication with others involved in loading.

### **Who this standard is for**

This standard is relevant to drivers of goods vehicles and those who are responsible for goods vehicles within logistics organisations.

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### SfL7 Ensure the vehicle is loaded correctly

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#### Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 confirm that the **vehicle** and **load** are compatible
  - P2 ensure the **vehicle** is ready to receive the **load**
  - P3 ensure the **loading** area is suitable and safe
  - P4 **manoeuvre** the **vehicle** into a suitable position for **loading**
  - P5 ensure that the appropriate **personal protective equipment (PPE)** is used
  - P6 take appropriate action when there are problems with **loading**
  - P7 ensure that the **vehicle** is **loaded** in the appropriate way for the type of **load** and delivery sequence
  - P8 ensure the **load** is secured with the correct restraints
  - P9 ensure any loose materials, restraints and ancillary equipment are secured so that they cannot shift or come loose during transport
  - P10 ensure that all relevant safety requirements for transporting the **load** are followed
  - P11 communicate effectively with others
  - P12 ensure that the **legal, safety and operational requirements** relating to **loading** the **vehicle** are complied with

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the **load restrictions** for the **vehicle** and how to ensure that it is within the limit
- K2 the appropriate **PPE**
- K3 what the potential requirements for **loading** and delivery sequence are
- K4 how your **vehicle** should be prepared for typical **loads**
- K5 how to position your **vehicle** for **loading** to ensure the safety of yourself and other road users
- K6 how to distribute the **load**
- K7 when to re-distribute the **load** and how to do so
- K8 how to ensure typical **loads** are secure and stable
- K9 what type of problems may occur if loose materials, restraints and ancillary equipment are not secure
- K10 what type of problems with the **loading** could occur
- K11 why, how and where to check axle weights
- K12 the importance of communicating effectively with others
- K13 what the **legal, safety and operational requirements** relating to **loading the vehicle**

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### Additional Information

#### Glossary

- **Legal, safety, and operating requirements:** highway codes, transport regulations, load restrictions, alcohol and drug restrictions, drivers' hours
- **Load:** containers, liquids, goods, materials, livestock, the load you typically carry, ADR
- **Loading:** complete, partial, sequential
- **Loading area:** industrial/commercial sites, retail sites, public road
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** high visibility vests, hard hats, protective clothing, eye protection, gloves
- **Vehicle:** the vehicle you normally drive, includes trailer when connected and ancillary equipment
- **Restraints:** straps, battens, chocks, chains, ropes
- **Manoeuvre:** forward movements, reverse movements, turns

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**Developed by** Skills for Logistics

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**Version number** 1

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**Date approved** September 2009

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**Indicative review date** April 2013

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**Validity** Current

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**Status** Original

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**Originating organisation** Skills for Logistics

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**Original URN** NSfL7

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**Relevant occupations** Transportation operations and maintenance; Warehouse and distribution; Managers in Distribution, Storage and Retail; General; Vehicle Trades; Transport Drivers and Operatives; Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives; Transport Associate Professionals

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**Suite** Driving Goods Vehicles

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**Key words** goods vehicle load