
Overview

What this standard is about

This standard is about coupling and uncoupling trailers. It covers the selection of safe and suitable places to couple and uncouple trailers. It includes the identification and use of different coupling equipment and the legal safety and operating requirements that apply.

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

SFLDGV10 SQA Unit Code (HA6F 04)

SfL10 Couple and uncouple the vehicle

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 **manoeuvre** the unit in relation to the trailer ready for coupling and uncoupling
- P2 ensure the trailer's brakes are applied prior to coupling and uncoupling
- P3 test that coupling has been established
- P4 make all the necessary **connections** when coupling
- P5 after coupling, make sure that unit and trailer systems work properly and the **vehicle** is safe to drive
- P6 select a safe site for uncoupling trailers from their units
- P7 disconnect the **connections** between the unit and trailer, when uncoupling
- P8 drive away from the trailer carefully and ensure the uncoupling has been achieved
- P9 comply with all relevant **legal, safety, and operating requirements** during coupling and uncoupling

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how different types of coupling work
- K2 when different **connections** have to be made
- K3 how to connect or disconnect the different **connections**
- K4 the importance of selecting a safe and suitable place for uncoupling
- K5 the importance of ensuring the unit is aligned to the trailer for coupling and uncoupling
- K6 why it is important to check the trailer brake is engaged
- K7 the importance of testing that the coupling is established
- K8 why it is important to ensure all connections are correctly stowed
- K9 how to prepare the trailer prior to uncoupling
- K10 what are the relevant **legal, safety, and operating requirements**

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Additional Information

Glossary

- **Connections:** air line, electrical lines, fluids
- **Legal, safety, and operating requirements:** highway codes, transport regulations, load restrictions, alcohol and drug restrictions, drivers' hours
- **Manoeuvre:** forward movements, reverse movements, turns
- **Vehicle:** the vehicle you normally drive, includes trailer when connected and ancillary equipment

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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

Suite Driving Goods Vehicles

Key words couple uncouple goods vehicles