

# Load Restraint Procedure

SAMPLE

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SAMPLE

## Purpose

This Load Restraint Procedure sets out the minimum requirements for planning, loading, restraining, inspecting and unloading goods to prevent load movement during transport. It is designed to protect workers and others from injury, prevent damage to plant and equipment, and ensure compliance with relevant Australian work health and safety (WHS) legislation, the Load Restraint Guide and applicable Australian Standards.

This procedure applies to all load restraint activities undertaken by [Company Name] in the following sectors:

- Transport and logistics operations, including linehaul, local delivery and back-to-base runs
- Warehousing and distribution centres, including loading docks and cross-docking activities
- Manufacturing and production sites dispatching finished goods or receiving raw materials
- Building and construction projects involving the movement of plant, materials and prefabricated components

## Scope

This procedure covers:

- All freight, materials, equipment and plant transported on road vehicles under the control or management of [Company Name]
- All vehicle types including utes, vans, rigid trucks, prime movers and trailers, flatbeds, matbeds, curtain-siders, drop-decks and specialised trailers
- All load restraint equipment used by [Company Name], including but not limited to chains, webbing straps, load binders, ropes, tensioners, corner protectors, dunnage, pallets, stillages, load-rated curtains and headboards
- All workers involved in planning, supervising or undertaking load restraint tasks, including subcontractors and labour-hire workers

This procedure does not replace legal obligations under WHS or road transport legislation. Where there is any inconsistency, the higher standard or more stringent requirement must be applied.

## References

- Work Health and Safety Act and Regulations (jurisdiction-specific)
- Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) and associated regulations (where applicable)
- National Transport Commission (NTC) Load Restraint Guide (current edition)
- Chain of Responsibility (CoR) requirements under HVNL

- Australian Standards related to load restraint and lifting, including but not limited to:
  - AS/NZS 4380 – Cargo restraint systems – Transport webbing and components
  - AS/NZS 4344 – Cargo restraint systems – Transport chains and components
  - AS 4991 – Lifting devices
  - AS 2359 series – Powered industrial trucks
- [Company Name] WHS Policy
- [Company Name] Risk Management Procedure
- [Company Name] Contractor Management Procedure

## Definitions

### General Definitions

- **Load restraint:** The method and equipment used to prevent a load from moving, falling, tipping or becoming dislodged from a vehicle during transport.
- **Load:** Any goods, materials, equipment, plant or structure placed on or attached to a vehicle for transport.
- **Vehicle:** Any motor vehicle or trailer used to transport a load by road, including company owned, leased, hired and subcontractor vehicles.
- **Working Load Limit (WLL):** The maximum load that a component or system is designed to restrain under normal operating conditions, as specified by the manufacturer.
- **Rated capacity:** The maximum safe working capacity of an item of plant, equipment or vehicle as specified by the manufacturer.
- **Dynamic forces:** Forces acting on a load during transport, including acceleration, braking, cornering, road camber, gradients and road surface irregularities.
- **High-risk loads:** Loads that present an increased risk of movement or collapse, including tall or top-heavy loads, loose bulk materials, liquids, pipes, steel, prefabricated concrete, mobile plant and oversized loads.

### Role Definitions

- **Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU):** The entity with primary duty of care under WHS legislation.
- **Officers:** Directors and senior managers who make, or participate in making, decisions that affect the whole or a substantial part of [Company Name].
- **Managers/Supervisors:** Line managers, leading hands, forepersons and dispatch supervisors responsible for overseeing loading and transport activities.