

Roof Poles, Roof Maintenance and Defect Reporting

Last year our focus was on the use of roof poles for opening and closing sliding roofs. Thanks to your cooperation this has greatly reduced the number of actual and potential accidents or injuries due to drivers climbing up to repair or free faulty roof mechanisms, or using side boards etc to open roofs. *The reported figure of drivers not arriving with a roof pole so far this year is 107 which is a massive improvement on the 252 reported for 2013 which is fantastic!*

Linked to this is a regular roof maintenance programme and a robust defect reporting system. Proactive servicing and lubricating of sliding roofs has many benefits which is vital to ensure all equipment is in the best condition and fit for purpose.

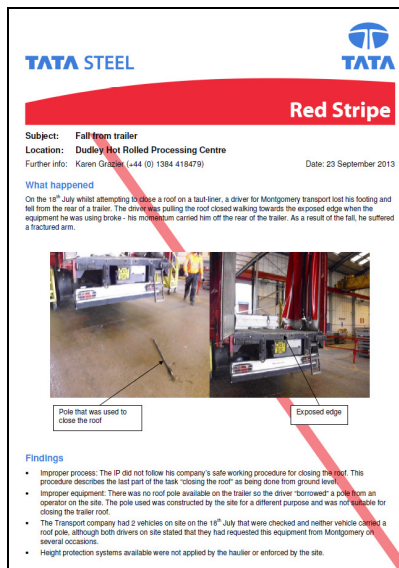
Roof pole:

- Allows a driver to open and close his roof, from the ground.
- Avoids working at height and the risk of falling from height

Roof Maintenance and Defect Reporting:

- Reduced effort required by the driver (manual handling)
- Remove the risk of climbing to fix a problem (working at height and falling)
- Reduced time (wasted time from struggling and then repairing damages)
- Reduced cost through reduced lost time and potential injuries

Accompanying this newsletter is a Tata Red Stripe which highlights the importance of this topic. Please ensure this is passed on to your drivers.



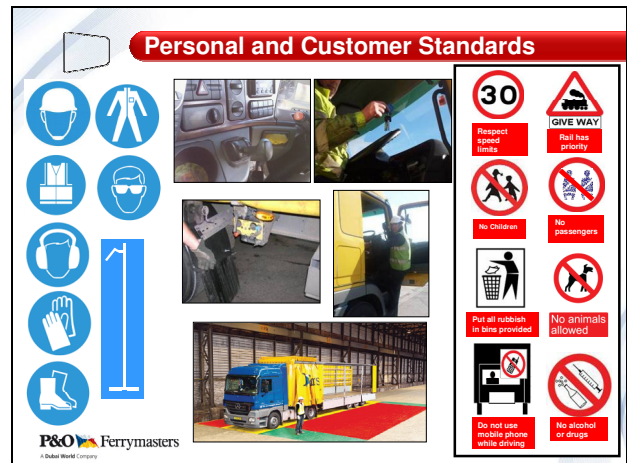
On a Proactive note....

One operator is proactively inspecting and lubricating the roofs of their trailers to focus on Sliding roofs and in August lubricated 188 roofs.

Site Standards and Inductions

It's important to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all personnel and visitors to Tata sites.

Site Standards and Inductions are in place to advise everyone of what is required at each site. Please ensure you and your drivers are familiar with the standards and follow all the instruction given during Induction training.



Driving on Site with Doors open

Trailer doors if not properly closed can be a serious hazard and cause damage to persons and property when travelling around site. Please ensure trailer doors are closed securely at all times when travelling on site.



And finally.....

A wealth of helpful driver and haulier safety information is available on our website, to assist in educating drivers and to keep you constantly up to date:

www.poferrymasters.com/tatasteel

Red Stripe

Subject: Fall from trailer

Location: Dudley Hot Rolled Processing Centre

Further info: Karen Grazier (+44 (0) 1384 418479)

Date: 23 September 2013

What happened

On the 18th July whilst attempting to close a roof on a taut-liner, a driver for Montgomery transport lost his footing and fell from the rear of a trailer. The driver was pulling the roof closed walking towards the exposed edge when the equipment he was using broke - his momentum carried him off the rear of the trailer. As a result of the fall, he suffered a fractured arm.



Pole that was used to close the roof

Exposed edge

Findings

- Improper process: The IP did not follow his company's safe working procedure for closing the roof. This procedure describes the last part of the task "closing the roof" as being done from ground level.
- Improper equipment: There was no roof pole available on the trailer so the driver "borrowed" a pole from an operator on the site. The pole used was constructed by the site for a different purpose and was not suitable for closing the trailer roof.
- The Transport company had 2 vehicles on site on the 18th July that were checked and neither vehicle carried a roof pole, although both drivers on site stated that they had requested this equipment from Montgomery on several occasions.
- Height protection systems available were not applied by the haulier or enforced by the site.

Red Stripe

Considerations for other businesses

- Ensure fall protection equipment is suitable for all vehicle types.
- Systems should be in place to prevent inappropriate use of Tata Steel tools / equipment by contractors.
- Review and ensure safe systems of work are suitable for the activity and are applied by employees and contractors. Monitoring systems should be in place to both ensure compliance and demonstrate adequate supervision.