

## Police stops, huge fines and costs

This bulletin highlights the issues from police stops in Germany and Belgium over the past few weeks related to inadequate load securing systems and overweight axles.

### Load securing:

Drivers have been stopped in the area of Kortrijk and Mannheim, causes:

- Gaps; between headboard and between the load with coils and tubes.
- Friction; insufficient, use of anti slip mats between layers recommended.
- Packaging; Load not adequately packed to make proper load securing possible.

Resulting in very expensive actions to resolve; extra material, transshipping costs e.g. with a telescopic crane etc. For one of the incidents the costs are € 4200 and huge delays!

Recommendation: Make sure drivers have sufficient knowledge of load securing. Load securing is becoming an increasingly important topic for authorities driven by safety and politics.

### Overweight (driving) axle:

Last week two fines in Belgium are paid; € 6000 and € 6500 ! And in cash!

Examples: 23tons IBC's with 4 meter space on the rear, the second a 23t coil positioned too far to the front. We would like to remind you the driver is responsible for the load distribution and therefore the haulier will be responsible for the costs.

Recommendations: Drivers must have the right knowledge about weight distribution. Urgent recommendation: equip trucks with on-board axle load indicators, a minor investment!!

### Actions to be taken

When these kind of incidents occur:

- Provide P&O with facts and pictures of the stopped vehicle immediately.
- Request name and contact details of police officer, and ask for their guidance.

