

Loss of Load in Transit – Near Miss

What Happened:

While on route to a customer delivery point a pack fell from the trailer and struck a passing vehicle causing severe damage. No injuries sustained to persons.



Findings:

- The trailer was loaded with product for multiple delivery drops.
- The driver was advised by load checking staff to have the load re-configured before leaving the loading site due to the potential unsupported load after the first drop, but the driver was short on time and did not want to wait.
- Load checking staff did not prevent the load from leaving site and arrange a re-stow.
- The first drop was completed and product unloaded from off-side. A stack of product was remaining on the near-side, secured with a hammock strap over the top.
- The product moved within the packaging during transit, the hammock strap lost its hold and the pack fell.

Recommendations:

Drivers and hauliers must:-

- ✓ Check and inspect loads allocated to them carefully.
- ✓ Do not accept any loads that are not configured in a way that can be safely secured and taken to road.
- ✓ Take extra care if the load is a multi-drop and ensure the load can be adequately secured after each delivery stage.
- ✓ Where a load build needs to be adjusted this must be raised with P&O immediately in order for it to be acted on and raised with the loading team on site.
- ✓ Check sheets must not be signed by drivers until they are completely happy their load is safe and they are willing to take responsibility for it.
- ✓ Ask yourself this question, would I be happy for me or my family to follow this load in a car?