

The theme this month is: **Shipping & Truck Driver Safety**

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Unsafe loading and unloading can result in death, injury, or damage. As Piping products travel on DOT regulated roads and share the same highways as our friends and families, proper securement of piping products is vitally important in keeping the public safe and protecting the plastic pipe industry. Trucking companies are conducting significant hiring to help with the demand on increased transportation needs, and these inexperienced drivers are at increased risk if not properly educated and trained on plastic pipe products. It is critical that PPI member companies have in place specific and thorough procedures for training, loading, strapping and transporting piping products.



Safe Loading Practices:

There are many key components to a safe loading operation, all must be followed to reduce the possibility of serious injury or death.

- Always require fully trained forklift operators to load pipe products. Operator experience should be required when loading; therefore, do not allow untrained or inexperienced individuals to load pipe onto trailers.
- Always require designated areas for loading product in your shipping yard.
- Always utilize safety cones or other visual reminders to keep the area surrounding the truck clear when loading.
- Always require the truck driver stay in the cab of the truck or in a secure area away from the loading activity.
- Utilize trained and authorized spotters with two-way radios when loading product.

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Safely Securing Pipe Products:

Procedures for securing pipe products to trailers should be developed and used for all loads. The following are a few recommended practices for load securement:

- Straps must be a minimum of 3" wide synthetic web design. Two 2" wide straps would be acceptable if one 3" or 4" strap is not available.
- No metal components of synthetic web straps should contact the product.
- The use of chain, cable or wire rope to secure pipe products is not recommended.
- Plastic pipe manufacturers should establish a minimum required number of straps for each product and for any loads with multiple layers.
- Straps must be placed either equidistant between bottom boards or directly over bottom boards. Where possible, strap ratchets should alternate between trailer sides.
- Place a half-twist to straps on both sides of a load to counter the effects of wind resistance that could loosen straps during transport.
- Finally, always require a thorough inspection of the load prior to leaving your site.

****Drivers must inspect and tighten straps within 50 miles of origin and again every 150 miles, or every three hours, whichever comes first, during each stop, especially after sitting overnight, and whenever ambient conditions change due to rain, sleet, snow, high wind, elevation change, or anything else that results in a temperature change.***

Reminder - Recordable Tracking and Sharing of Corrective Actions:

PPI is encouraging your company to participate in this monthly report. Background on this process and the template are attached for your reference. Questions should be directed to David Fink at dfink@plasticpipe.org. We look forward to your company's participation so that together we can support each other in continuous improvement of our safety performance.

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Safety Minute of the Month: Do you know where your truck driver is?



Your site should require stringent truck driver safety policies. These practices should include the following:

- Implementing a Truck Driver Orientation video to align safety practices and expectations.
- A printed “Yard Safety Rules” document to include signatures to verify understanding.
- Language barriers exist within the truck driving industry. Being prepared with multiple language options to share safety information and loading rules is a must.
- Drivers must always stay within the cab of their truck or a secure area away from the loading activity.
- Cones or other visual reminders should be placed around the loading area so that spotters stay clear of the loading zone.
- Communication between the shipment loader and the truck driver is critical. Truck drivers are never to approach the load unless specifically instructed and allowed by the loader/unloader.
- Truck drivers should always return to the same place as before after securing/removing tie down straps. This ensures consistency for the loader/unloader to always know where the driver is located.
- Truck drivers should never walk, stand or pass under elevated forks (loaded or empty).
- Truck drivers shall never be permitted to climb on or walk on product that has been loaded or the sides of the trailer with the product. Ladders should be provided when necessary.

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Example Yard Rules for Truck Drivers:



Plant Yard Rules

Issue: 10/26/15 Rev: 11
A.10 Pckg EXH1- Plant Yard Rules
Replaces: 01/20/11

This document must be signed or on file prior to being loaded.

Pre-Load

- Drivers must check in at the Shipping Office. Drivers are only allowed in the plant if permitted by plant rules and they must stay within the designated perimeters.
- The Performance Pipe Truck Driver Safety Video must be viewed by each truck driver at least once every calendar half year. ~~As long as~~ the driver can display a Performance Pipe issued card proving they viewed the video during the calendar half year, it is valid for all Performance Pipe plants. Driver will be required to sign The Truck Driver Safety Orientation Log indicating they have viewed the safety video and document the time they have arrived to be loaded. Shipping personnel will document the issuing date and issuing plant of any Performance Pipe Driver Safety card into the log.
- Drivers must ~~wear a safety vest at all times~~ wear a safety vest at all times while on the premises.
- Drivers are responsible for having all straps required by Performance Pipe shipping instructions. Chains, ~~ropes~~ or cables are not permitted.
- Existing loads will not be moved to accommodate pipe, nor will step deck heights be modified with pallets, ~~lumber~~ or metal trusses.
- Nails, boards, ~~trash~~ or debris must be cleaned from the trailer prior to loading. Mud and rocks must be cleaned from pallets or pipe. Any such items will be disposed of in plant trash receptacles.
- Passengers must stay in the cab of the truck. If they will be assisting driver to secure the load, they must receive the same instruction as drivers, sign off on training documentation and wear a safety vest.
- No animals are allowed outside the driver's truck.
- Loading in adverse weather is at the discretion of the Department Supervisor or Plant Manager. This includes lightning, high winds, heavy precipitation or other conditions deemed unsafe or potentially unsafe.
- Drivers will operate their equipment in a safe manner, not exceeding 5 mph while on company property.
- In case of emergency (drill or actual), drivers are required to follow the shipping personnel instructions to the designated place of safety.
- Cell phone usage is not permitted while at Performance Pipe, except in cab of truck or designated safe areas.
- Drivers failing to comply with these rules will not be loaded and will be asked to leave the premises.
- Drivers acknowledge by their signature they have read and understood entrance signs prohibiting controlled substances, ~~alcohol~~ and firearms on company property.

Loading

- Drivers and occupants are under the direction of Performance Pipe shipping personnel while their vehicle is being loaded. They must stay well clear of the loading area and visible to ~~loading personnel at all times~~ loading personnel at all times. They must stay a safe distance behind or in front of the trailer, in the truck cab, or at the plant's designated area, until instructed to place their tie down straps. Once tied down straps are in place, drivers must return to the same place where they were at during the loading process.
- Only Performance Pipe employees qualified in truck loading operations ~~are allowed to~~ load trucks. No riders are allowed on the forklift or forks at any time.
- No one ~~is allowed to~~ stand, pass or work under elevated forks, loaded or empty, or elevated pipe suspended from the forks.
- Drivers are not permitted to stand on top of the sides of a loaded trailer. Plant personnel will provide equipment or assistance if needed for securing or tarping loads. Drivers must use extreme caution if they stand on the front or back of the trailer to secure tarps.
- **Drivers are not permitted to climb on pipe or walk up on the sides of the trailer after it has been loaded. Failure to comply will result in cancellation of load.**
- For coiled pipe on pallets the sideboard cannot extend anymore than 5" off the back or front of the trailer and must be strapped securely to the bed of the truck. Pallets must be inspected closely to ensure no loose or broken boards are present that could come off during transit. No loose single boards on pipe straight lengths on any layer of pipe shall be allowed to overhang the front, back or side of a 102" wide trailer. When using a 96" trailer to load straight lengths of pipe, the dunnage and pipe may exceed the width of the trailer providing neither exceeds the 102" overall width requirement. Performance Pipe will not build up, or load onto, false flooring (pallets, timbers, load levelers, etc.) that provides a flat surface for step-deck trailers.

Post Loading

- Once product has been loaded, the driver is responsible for safely securing the load per Performance Pipe requirements. Drivers must then report back to the shipping office for instructions and paperwork. The driver will be given a copy of the unloading instructions, bill of lading and packing slip, all of which must be given to the customer. A quality certification letter may be added as well. The driver will receive a copy of the bill of lading along with any special delivery instructions.
- The truck and trailer cannot be moved unless the load has been properly strapped. No load will be allowed to leave the plant until it's been inspected by Performance Pipe shipping personnel.
- Do not tarp the pipe until the load has been verified by the plant shipping personnel.
- For plants allowing the use of bungee cords to secure tarps: Drivers must use caution when securing BUNGEE CORDS due to overstretched or damaged cords. Inspect all bungee cords before use and do not stretch the cords beyond their design limits. Do not put yourself in any compromising positions when securing bungee cords that could cause injury to yourself.
- Straps may need to be placed over protective covers on product packaging. Ask shipping personnel if there are any questions.

Pictures must be taken of all loads before exiting the premises.

Date: _____ Driver Name: _____

Company: _____ Delivery or pickup Number _____