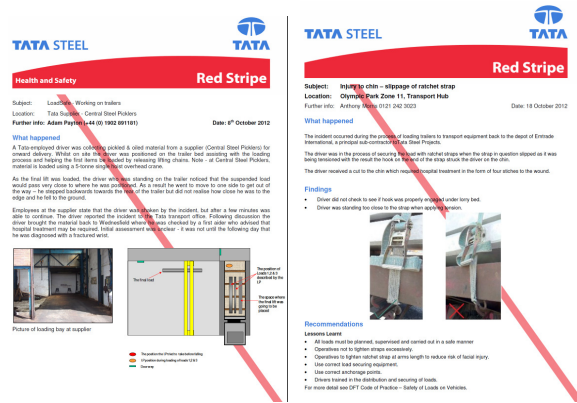


**Recent Red Stripes**

Accompanying this newsletter are 2 Tata Red stripes which are relevant to Driver operations. Please ensure your Drivers are fully aware of these incidents and adhere to the advice given in the Recommendations.



- Windscreen, wiper blades and other windows are clean
- Tyres are in good condition
- Brakes are working well
- Fluids such as oil, screen wash and anti freeze are kept topped up
- Keep your distance!

Winter Load restraint guidelines are in place now. Drivers should be aware of weather conditions and how this could effect their load.

- **Friction coefficients of steel products can be reduced as much as 50% in freezing conditions.**
- **Use extra restraints when there is a risk of ice**
- **Anti slip matting should be used wherever possible.**
- **Trailers must be clear of debris, snow and ice**

**Trailer park lighting at Hartlepool**

New lighting has been installed at the Hartlepool trailer park which will give much better visibility to the collecting drivers and shunters working there.



**Driver injury whilst moving coil boards**

During close up of his trailer, a driver was replacing the coil well boards in his trailer. He attempted to kick one of the well boards into place and in doing so has torn his knee ligaments and unfortunately is now off work for 3 months!



This incident highlights the importance of following correct procedures and methods of handling equipment and not taking short cuts. This driver did not adhere to the manual handling techniques he was shown when replacing coil boards and is now paying the price for his error of judgement.

- Never take short cuts – it very rarely saves time in the end
- Do not become complacent – stick to your safe working procedures

**Winter Weather Driving & Load Restraint**

A few simple rules that all Drivers should keep in mind when driving in winter:

- Lights are clean and working
- Battery is fully charged

**Costs to Companies of Replacing Side Boards**

When companies have to replace full sets of trailer side boards this is a substantial cost to their business. What is more frustrating is the fact these costs are totally avoidable - Drivers and Loaders should take time to just think a second before throwing out brand new side boards just because they couldn't take time to replace them. If there is not the facility to replace them properly, then just leave in a neat and tidy pile on the side of the trailer.

