

Tarping and securing general freight loads



PREVENTION. CARE. RECOVERY.

Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whara

A Road Freight Transport Injury Prevention Solution

The Problem

- General freight drivers often have to work at height when tarping or securing loads.
- Falls resulting in serious injury or worse may occur, regardless of the height worked at.

Common Causes of Injury

- Slipping off load.
- Loss of balance.
- Poor or unsafe access.

Accident Statistics

Of the ACC claims received between July 2004 and June 2005 that resulted from falls from trucks:

- Two were 'serious entitlement' claims (ie involving time off work) costing \$152,000.
- 413 were non-serious entitlement claims, costing \$2.2 million.
- 871 were medical-expense-only claims (ie no time off work) costing \$155,000.

Common Sense Solutions

Yards, depots and pick-up and drop-off points visited by trucks should try to:

- Use alternative means that avoid any need to be on the tray of the truck.
- Eliminate the need for drivers to work at height.
- Minimise the risk of injury should a driver fall.



Common Sense Solutions for Tarping and Securing General Freight Loads



Curtain-Siders

Load into curtain-siders rather than flat decks. This eliminates the need to climb on the load to tarp.



Shrink Wrapping

Eliminate the need to get on top of the load to tarp. One way of achieving this is to shrink wrap goods so that tarping is not necessary.



Tarping Station

A tarping station enables drivers to use fall prevention equipment.



Forklift Cages

Use a forklift cage to place items on the tops of loads.

Remember: Some loads do require supplementary restraints such as load binders for the freight to be secure. This may require getting up onto the deck or tray to thread the load binder. Care should be taken when doing this.