

SHE Bulletin SB/312

Issuing Manager/Department: Matthew King, Gas Safety Manager
Approved: Derek Bickers, Head of UK Safety

1 tonne dumper trucks only to be used in exceptional circumstances

Since April 2006 National Grid and contractors working on its behalf have experienced 7 overturns of 1 tonne dumpers, 3 resulting in injury; every incident having the potential to be much more serious.

In response to this and to eradicate repeat incidents of this serious nature, 1 tonne dumpers are to be used only by exception. By exception should mean only very occasional use as necessitated by site conditions such as restricted access/narrow walkways/alleyways/other specific site conditions.

Their use must be accompanied by: appropriate authorisation by a competent manager and a suitable and sufficient site and task specific risk assessment. As a minimum the risk assessment should consider: site, route and ground conditions, operator safety/competence, safe plant and load. Contents of the risk assessment should be briefed and understood by all site team members, recorded and signed onto by all appropriate persons. During use, work should be supervised and be continually assessed for ongoing effectiveness of control measures.



Note: Some parts of the business have already been able to take steps to avoid using 1 tonne dumpers altogether. This bulletin is not intended to countermand these steps

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For further information regarding this Bulletin please contact your Line Manager or Matthew King on 07971099289