

THE DISPATCH

MANAGING RISK IN THE MOVING & STORAGE INDUSTRY

TOPIC

Safety Around Vehicles

Avoid several dangers and injuries by following some simple safety rules when working around vehicles.

☐ GET FAMILIAR WITH THE VEHICLE

- Know how to use the equipment. Like cargo straps and walk-boards... how they attach and how to store them properly.
- Know where the first aid kit and accident investigation kit are located and how to use them.
- Don't use damaged or worn items. Notify the appropriate person at your company about the damage.

KEEP WORK AREA CLEAN

- Keep furniture pads and load straps out of walking areas to avoid tripping.
- Store used packing materials in an empty box; keep food wrappers and other trash out of the cab.

 General housekeeping not only improves safety, but makes you look more professional in the eye of the customer.

☐ USE HANDRAILS & 3-POINT TECHNIQUE TO ENTER & EXIT CAB

- The 3-Point Technique prevents you from falling or jumping to the ground.

 Always have at least three points of contact with the vehicle, either two hands and a foot or two feet and a hand.
- Don't jump! Jumping from the cab causes slip and falls when hitting the ground. Plus, knees, back, or ankles suffer a jarring from the impact of the jump.

PARK SMART... BEST ACCESS & OUT OF TRAFFIC

- Pick a spot that allows other vehicles to have adequate access.
- Many parking lots and driveways are cramped, so check to make sure there is good visibility for other drivers to see you working.
- Use cones or triangles in areas of limited visibility, such as sharp corners or narrow streets.

☐ SECURE THE VEHICLE & STABILIZE THE WALK-BOARD FOR (UN)LOADING

- Make sure you don't have to jump in and out of the trailer. If there is not a walk-board or loading dock, use the 3-Point Technique.
- When working with a loading dock:
 - Make sure the vehicle is backed up to the dock.
 - Avoid large spaces that you could fall through when carrying boxes.
 - Make sure the loading area is of similar height to the dock to avoid trips and falls.

