



CI-117B

Vehicle Safety and Standards Circular to Industry

Tilt Tray Vehicles

During the past two years there have been a number of serious crashes involving tilt tray vehicles. The Department of Transport (DoT) has had a series of discussions with the Towing Industry concerning this subject.

It was resolved that there was a need for greater awareness by road users of the potential danger that these vehicles presented because of the “chisel point” at the rear of each tilt tray.

This can be achieved by making the rear of a tilt tray vehicle more conspicuous and by providing measures to reduce the risk of serious injury should a collision occur.

There are a number of methods that can be adopted to provide a reasonable level of protection.

In all cases reflective tape should be used. It should be at least 100mm high and comply with AS 1906, Retro-reflective Materials Pt 2 (1981), as amended. The retro-reflective material may be red on a yellow background or red on a white background.

Provision of a conspicuity strip

The backing material to which the conspicuity strip is attached should be at least 8mm thick x 150mm high x width of tray.

The detachable strip may be attached by either a hinge or by vertical pins that locate it onto the rear of the tilt tray.

Reflective tape at least 100mm high x width of tray must be adhered to the backing strip.



Provision of an under run protector bar

This system uses a steel section, usually a RHS at least 75mm x 50mm, appropriately secured to the truck chassis. The section should not exceed 100 mm.

This must be flush with the rear of the tray.



Provision of an under run protector light bar & wheel lift

This system incorporates an appropriate under run protector light bar positioned just above the wheel lift. Reflective tape shall be used as shown.



Provision of an under run protector light bar & wheel lift (this was developed in the Eastern States)

This comprises of an under protector light bar that pivots as the tilt tray is lowered to the ground. It has a wheel lift attachment fitted. Reflective tape shall be used as shown.



Light bar in normal position



Light bar tilts as tray begins to move rearwards

Acceptable alternative devices

Other forms of either conspicuity strips or under run protection devices that are deemed equally effective may also be acceptable to the DoT. To have these devices assessed please contact the DoT.

Related documents and links

- Standard AS 1906 can be accessed through the Standards Australia website (www.standards.org.au)

Correspondence and enquiries

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