



# Safety Alert

## Hazard Alert: Load Safety in Vehicles

Incident: The rear window of a service utility sustained some damage after it was hit by a heavy object carried in the tray of the vehicle without being secured – while the vehicle was travelling, the unsecured load shifted and impacted the back of the cab damaging the rear window.

This incident had the potential to cause serious injury to the occupants of the vehicle, bystanders and property, particularly at increased vehicle speed.

Solution: To avoid incidents like this from recurring, ensure you always adhere to the following points:

- All loads must be placed into the tray of the vehicle and properly secured using the supplied tie-down straps – check the straps each time you use them and ensure they stay with the vehicle. Only use proper tray tie-down points to secure the load.
- Ensure that the load can safely be carried by the vehicle – never overload the vehicle!
- Tools incl. stands, jacks, tyres, rims etc must not be carried inside the passenger compartment.
- Loose items in the passenger compartment must be restrained or placed on to the floor of the vehicle.
- Loads must not protrude from the side of the vehicle and must not interfere with the forward or rearward vision of the driver.
- If a load protrudes from the front or back of the vehicle, you must abide by site/relevant government traffic rules and attach a suitable warning flag to the item.
- When loaded, drive at reduced speed, particularly in corners, and allow for increased braking distance.

Vehicle safety is an important factor in all tasks, drive safely

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24/06/03 Safety Alert11 Tying down of Loads incl. disclaimer1.doc

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