

TOOLBOX TALKS

The Upside of Safety



Backing

Operating vehicles, forklifts, telehandlers, etc can produce many blind spots. When operating these pieces of equipment, use a spotter. Below are some backing up tips.

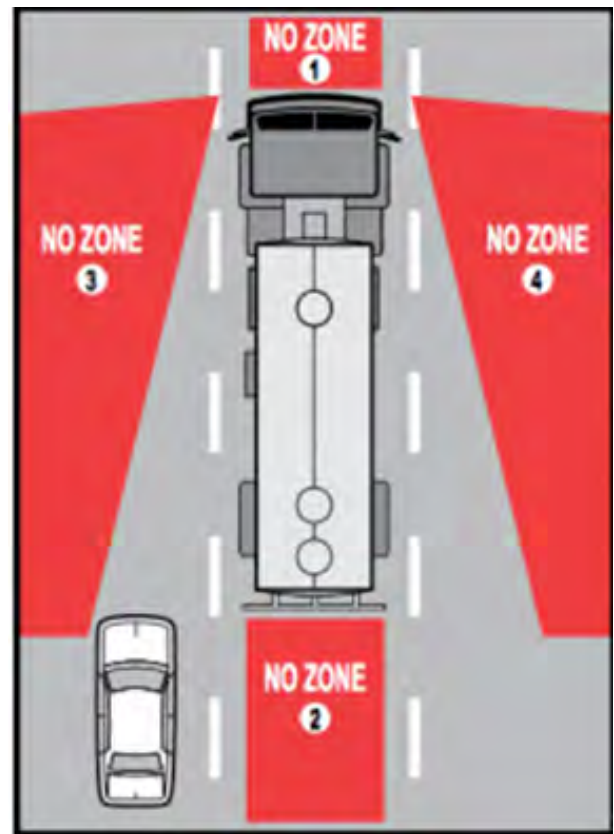
Prior to Backing Up

- The driver and spotter should conduct a “**circle of safety**” and survey the backing area and surrounding sides for hazards, such as:
 - Low overhead clearance.
 - Presence of other vehicles or people.
 - Obstructions beside the vehicle.
 - Burnt out reverse lights on vehicles or malfunctioning back up alarms.
- Remove all identified hazards if possible.
- If the vehicle or equipment has a back up alarm, make sure it is working
- Review spotter signals to ensure there is a clear understanding between both parties.

DRIVER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. ALWAYS HAVE A SPOTTER
2. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BACKING!
3. Always KEEP THE SPOTTER IN THE MIRROR
 - a. If you lose sight of him = Immediately Stop
4. Follow the Spotter instructions

All Vehicles Have Blind Spots



Spotter Responsibilities

1. Place yourself eight to ten feet on the driver's side of the vehicle.
2. If more than one spotter is necessary, only one spotter should give signals to the driver.
3. Wear a safety vest or reflective clothing.
4. Use universal spotter signals to direct the driver.
5. Do not walk backwards while giving instructions.
6. Ensure there is a route of escape to use in case driver loses control of the vehicle or fails to see the spotter. Do not place yourself between the vehicle and a fixed object.
7. Maintain eye contact with driver through the window or side mirrors.



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✓ SAFETY CHECK

Did you perform a circle of safety?

Spotter is positioned 8-10 feet away on the operators side of the vehicle?

Are all possible hazards removed behind you?

Both driver and spotter reviewed the hand signals that will be used?

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Location:

Presenter:

Date:

ATTENDANCE SHEET

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