

Discussion Leader:

Attendance Sign- In:

### Summary

If you are driving a vehicle that is carrying a load or towing a trailer that is carrying a load, you have to make sure the load is properly secured. By neglecting to do this, you might cause an accident, injury or death as well as be legally liable.

### Guide for Discussion

Help employees to understand that a few moments looking over a load and making sure it is properly secured can make a huge difference on the outcome of a successful or not so successful trip. Concerns are:

- Objects fall from your vehicle onto other vehicles or pedestrians
  - Other drivers swerve to dodge items that are falling or have fallen from your vehicle onto the road
  - An unsecured load crashes into your vehicle cabin during emergency braking
  - A load shifts and contributes to your vehicle becoming unstable **or unsafe**
- 
- Articles 5 feet long or shorter weighing 1,100 pounds or less, require only one tie-down.
  - Articles 5 feet long or shorter weighing over 1,100 pounds require two tie-downs.
  - Articles longer than 5 feet need two and one every 10 feet
  - Separate items must have no space between them if not, individually secured.
  - Wheeled or tracked vehicles over 10,000 pounds require four direct (anchor) tie-downs and tightening devices.
  - Booms must be lowered and properly secured – preferably with an additional tie-down device.
  - Inspect straps for damage
  - Inspect trailer for proper hook up, ball size, pins and lights
  - Secure all loads, tarps or nets may be needed.
  - Anything that overhangs back by 4 feet needs flagging

Always do a 360<sup>o</sup> walk around before commencing with trip.

### Additional Discussion Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Remember

If something falls off the trailer or truck, the driver is responsible, not the person who loaded the trailer.