

Un-sprung Single Axle Trailers

CAMs #407689

1. Relevance

This alert is important for our [workshop teams and all staff who tow un-sprung single axle trailers](#). Please discuss it with your local subcontractors and hire company branches too.

2. Incident

A Construction Supervisor was towing a 400kg plate compactor on a single axle, un-sprung trailer over the Takaka hill. While driving around a right-hand bend the trailer has flipped and the coupling has come off the tow ball.

Fortunately, [the safety chain has done its job](#) and the trailer has remained connected to the ute. The plate compactor has come off the back of the trailer but remained attached to it by the stop that had been used to tie it down.

As you'll appreciate, [this incident could have been far more serious if the 400kg plate had come off the trailer](#) and bounced down the road.



3. Contributing Factors

This purpose-built trailer was supplied with the plate compactor as part of the original purchase.

It is a single axle un-sprung trailer, and it does not have any suspension.

The wheel track is narrow.

[These factors significantly increase the risk of rollover](#) even at relatively low speeds.

4. Mandatory Requirements

Fulton Hogan owns about 50 of these trailers and they're used across the business to transport things like concrete mixers, plate compactors, and portaloos. Their lack of suspension and instability makes them unsuitable for use at speeds greater than about 50kph. Given this, please action the following mandatory requirements.

- 4.1 [Discuss this RED Alert with all relevant staff, suppliers, and local subcontractors](#) before the end of January 2024. NB: Our national procurement team will share a copy with our national suppliers; Hirepool, Porter Hire, etc.
- 4.2 Before 31 January please clearly [label the drawbar](#) of all un-sprung, single axle trailers that might need to be used between now and the end of July 2024 with *"Maximum Towing Speed 50kph"*.

- 4.3 By 31 July 2024 all Fulton Hogan owned un-sprung, single axle trailers are to be either:
- (a) **Modified** by adding suspension and increasing the wheel track in consultation with Graham Eaton (or).
 - (b) **Removed** from the fleet and scrapped, salvaging and recycling parts where possible.
- 4.3 Items that are currently shifted on un-sprung single axle trailers should, (as soon as possible but no later than 31 July), be transported on:
- (a) The modified trailers described in 4.2(a) above (or)
 - (b) Our general purpose, tandem axle trailers (or)
 - (c) The decks of small trucks

NB: These requirements may mean that some Projects and Regions will need to increase their fleet of FH approved tandem axle trailers. Allowances for this should be made in our 2024 CAPEX plans.

5. Revision History

Date	Author	Brief Description of Change
3/11/2023	L Ricketts	1 st Draft
8/12/2023	T Talbot	Final Draft

6. Closeout Requirements

Please discuss this Red Alert with your teams, complete the items below and return to your Safety Manager. They will collate all responses for the business unit and send a single confirmation to the HSQES Analyst at nzincident@fultonhogan.com before (31 July 2024).

6.1. What date was this Red Alert communicated to the workplace: ____/____/20____

6.2. Could this incident occur in your Region/Project? (Circle your answer below)

YES If Yes, please answer questions 6.3 & 6.4
NO If No, please answer question 6.5

6.3. Have all the actions and recommendations been implemented? (Circle your answer below)

YES If Yes, please answer question 6.4
NO If No, please answer question 6.5

6.4. Are these measures sufficient to eliminate or reduce the risk of an incident (or similar) described in the alert from happening again? (Circle your answer below)

YES or No

If No, please raise a CAM's case listing the required actions and accountabilities to be taken in order to eliminate or reduce the risk. Record the CAM's number below:

CAMs Case Number: CAMs-_____

6.5. Please note the reasons why this incident could not occur within your region / project?

In signing this document, I confirm that the actions above have been completed in this region/project.

Region / Project: _____

Region / Project Manager Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____