

Loading & Unloading Rigs & Cranes

- Loading and unloading plant is an activity which we carry out regularly but it can be a hazardous activity if we do not follow a few simple rules.
- Some items of plant require special trailers etc in order to transport them safely. It is important to make sure that the correct trailer is used for the plant.
- The person driving the rig on and off the low loader must be trained and competent to move that item of plant.
- The rig driver should be in charge of loading/unloading the machine, although the haulier must have some input and the haulier is responsible for securing the load.
- A trained and competent banksman must supervise the loading/unloading of the machine.
- The plant will often need a ramp in order to safely access the trailer. Some trailers have these built in, in other cases a ramp will need to be created from timbers and sleepers. If a ramp is to be built it should be not too steep for the plant to climb.
- Plant should not be 'spragged' on the ramp. If the plant needs realigning then it should be tracked off the ramp realigned and tracked back on.
- Whenever possible plant should be loaded/unloaded in an area away from the public and from other vehicles to ensure that there is room to manoeuvre the machine safely. If this is not possible then extra personnel should be made available to control vehicle and pedestrian movement.
- If plant is to be tracked on tarmac made roads then suitable protection should be provided.
- When getting into or out of the cab whilst it is on the low loader the driver should always use the short ladder provided



Q : 'Who should have a CPCS card?'

Q : 'How long should a wooden ramp be?'

Q : 'When can you 'sprag' plant on a ramp?'