

SSOW 05 - Safe System Of Work: Washing of Vehicles

DATE ISSUED:	April 2013
PREVIOUS REVIEWS:	November 2002, April 2010, June 2011
ISSUED BY:	Pete Wakenshaw, Collections Manager
IN CONSULTATION WITH:	Martin Hellyer, Technical Officer Geoff Dicker, Health & Safety Adviser Mick Wallis, Senior Collections Supervisor Chris Price (GMB H&S Rep)
REVIEW DUE:	April 2014

1. Activity

This activity applies to the washing of vehicles at Midland Road Depot and Radstock Road Depot.

The traffic film remover is mixed automatically by the pressure washer at Midland Road Depot and sprayed through one lance. At Radstock Road Depot the traffic film remover is applied through one lance and another lance used to spray water.

In the event of alternative facilities being used this SSOW should also be followed.

2. Persons at Risk

Driver
Loader

3. Hazards

Injury to eye caused by impact from high pressure water jet or foreign object
Injury to skin from undiluted traffic film remover
Slip on debris, oil or ice
Impact from other vehicles
Impact from vehicle body

4. Procedures

a) Driver

- Only wash vehicles in the designated 'Wash Down Area'
- Ensure that the hard standing, where the employees will stand, is clear of debris, water and ice
- Ensure the parking brake is on and the vehicle is isolated by removing the keys
- Use body or hopper props accordingly
- Ensure wash down area is left clean after use
- Ensure that the hose is reeled back up after use and the machine is turned off

b) Assistants

- It is important that assistants work in a co-ordinated manner with the employee directing the water gun, as a high pressure water jet can damage eyes on impact, and can also cause debris e.g. grit to fly off the vehicle at speed

c) Supervisor / Designated Building Officer

- Carry out daily visual inspection to ensure that the wash down area is clear and ready for use. Make arrangements as necessary to have debris, which has been washed from vehicles, cleared
- Ensure that signage is displayed on, or near the high pressure was equipment, stating that 'eye protection must be worn'
- If the drum of traffic film remover is empty the feeder pipe should be removed, a new drum put in place and the feeder pipe reinserted.
- Scheduled servicing of the pressure washer equipment is required every 6 months, by the appointed Manufacturers Agent.
- The power supply to the pressure washer equipment is to be protected by a safety cut-out.

5. General Guidance - Site Conditions

- Avoid washing vehicles in freezing conditions or if the ground is contaminated (e.g. oil spillage)

6. Personal Protective Equipment

- Normally a Driver and Loader will be wearing the standard PPE that is worn for waste collection, however for the avoidance of doubt the following PPE must be worn:
 - Protective footwear (with steel cap toes)
 - Hi-Viz top (as provided)
 - Ballistic trousers
 - Gloves
 - Eye protection

7. Medical Requirements

- A supply of eyewash is maintained in the office at both depots.

8. Training

- Supervisors / Designated Building Officers, are responsible for training employees before they use the high pressure equipment.
- The Manufacturer's instructions for the high pressure equipment are held in the office at both depots.
- A COSHH Assessment has been undertaken for Fleetsafe (the current traffic film removal product) on 22nd November 2012

Related Documents	
	Reference:
Risk Assessments	
Vehicle Washing	WC2
COSHH Assessment	
Fleetsafe	22.11.2012
Procedures	
Issue of PPE	P18
Safe Systems Of Work	
Driving of Waste Collection Vehicles	SSOW 02
First Aid Arrangements	SSOW 12