

**Toolbox Talk Details**

Title	C18 - Mobile plant
Reason	Mobile plant can be lethal in untrained hands. Safe operation of mobile plant requires competence: a combination of skills, knowledge, training and experience.
Outline	This talk covers the dangers associated with mobile plant and how they can be controlled.

**The dangers**

1. Certain forms of plant (such as dumpers) are particularly prone to overturning if used unsafely.
2. Groundworks and lifting activities account for the greatest number of accidents involving mobile plant.
3. Accidents are often caused by plant being used unsafely by untrained, unauthorised workers.
4. People can be injured or killed by mobile plant that is reversing without the assistance of a vehicle marshal.
5. On some mobile plant the operator has only limited visibility from the driving position.

**General precautions for drivers**

1. Never use mobile plant unless you have been trained, hold the necessary skills card (such as a CPCS card) and have been authorised to do so.
2. Operators of mobile plant should carry out daily pre-use checks and report any defects noticed.
3. In most cases it will be necessary for a vehicle marshal to assist the operator during reversing.
4. Ideally, sites will be planned so that the need to reverse is kept to a minimum.
5. Obey site speed limits and one-way systems.
6. When parked, ensure the parking brake is on and the wheels are chocked if necessary.
7. Mobile plant should never be left unattended with the keys in position – always immobilise it.
8. Use stop-blocks where provided to prevent over-running.
9. Mobile plant should only be refuelled at designated refuelling points.
10. Do not carry passengers unless the plant is designed to do so.
11. If a roll-over protective structure (ROPS) and a falling object protective structure (FOPS) are not provided, vacate the driver's seat during loading and unloading.

**General precautions for others**

1. On some sites, mobile plant and private vehicle routes may cross; make sure you know who has priority.
2. Keep well away from mobile plant in operation; pedestrians and mobile plant should be segregated. Make sure the operator has seen you if you must pass near mobile plant.
3. If your safety is at risk from any item of mobile plant, stop work and report it to your supervisor.

4. You may need personal protective equipment (PPE) (such as hearing protectors) because of plant working near you.

Revision Date	Assessed By	Signature
January 2021	Michael Reddan	