



Leading UK
Logistics



Van Excellence Code



Van Excellence Gold Partners 2020





The Code was developed and is maintained by a Governance Group of van operators. It has three areas of focus; the driver, the vehicle and safe working practices.

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1 The driver

1.1 Licence validity

Operators must ensure drivers are appropriately licensed to minimum legal standard at all times.

1.2 Fitness to drive

Operators must ensure drivers are required to be 'fit to drive'.

1.3 Driver induction

Operators must ensure drivers receive an appropriate and relevant induction to the operator and their role as a driver.

1.4 Driver assessment

Operators must ensure all new drivers undergo an assessment of their attitude towards driving and risk awareness.

1.5 Specialist qualifications

Operators must ensure that where necessary, drivers are competent to use any specialist equipment or deal with any specialised loads.

1.6 Hours and working time

Operators must ensure drivers are sufficiently rested and comply with hours and working time legislation.

1.7 Driver identification

Operators must ensure the identity of the driver of each vehicle at any time can be identified, and records are retained and made available for viewing.

1.8 Driver skills

Operators must ensure drivers are up-skilled as required by changing job role, or as indicated by ongoing assessment, or following an incident.

2 The vehicle

2.1 Pre-use defect checks

Operators must ensure all vans in their operation are roadworthy.

2.2 Vehicle maintenance cycles

Operators must ensure maintenance activity is pre-planned and performed as scheduled.

2.3 Equipment maintenance cycles

Operators must ensure any ancillary equipment is pre-planned and maintained appropriately.

2.4 Vehicle appearance

Operators must require their vehicles to be kept clean and tidy.

2.5 Vehicle taxation

Operators must ensure vehicles are taxed correctly.

2.6 Vehicle insurance

Operators must ensure vehicles are insured correctly.

2.7 Vehicle annual test

Operators must ensure, where required, vehicles have passed the MOT test.

2.8 Vehicle records

Operators must ensure they have sufficient vehicle records available for viewing.

3 Safe working practices

3.1 Risk assessment

Operators must demonstrate they have considered the risks associated with the use of the vehicle any associated equipment.

3.2 Mobile equipment and devices

Operators must ensure drivers are required to comply with the legislative requirements around the use of mobile equipment and devices.

3.3 Safe and legal loading

Operators must ensure that the weight and distribution of all loads is safe and legal and that all vehicles used to carry external loads are equipped with suitable equipment.

3.4 Driver protection

Operators must ensure load securing systems in use are appropriate for both the loads being carried and the vehicles being used.

3.5 Speed management

Operators must ensure drivers have been informed of prevailing vehicle and road speed limits.

3.6 Incident investigation and action

Operators must ensure all incidents are logged and investigated and where necessary, discipline or remedial training is provided to drivers following the investigation of the incident.

3.7 Towing

Operators must ensure only vehicles properly adapted or constructed for the purpose are used for towing.



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VE003/SM/02
06.19