



ALERT ▶

Crossrail-wide restriction on underslung / suspended loads

Following agreement with the Safety and Health Leadership Team, Crossrail is placing a restriction on Telehandlers being used for lifting and travelling with underslung /suspended loads.

Using Telehandlers to undertake lifting and travelling with the load suspended is to cease unless the following has been undertaken:

1. A thorough review has been undertaken and it has been concluded that there is no suitable alternative equipment for the task;
2. A Lifting Plan, which takes into account both the lift and the telehandler movement, has been completed, including sign-off (in writing) by a senior authorised person. The lifting plan should take account of the following:
 - a. The Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) has introduced additional training for the category of Telescopic Handler (A17), aimed at ensuring that operators are trained and competent to operate telehandlers specifically when lifting and travelling with suspended loads.
 - b. The manufacturer's specifications/instructions for both telehandler and attachment which is to be used. Ensure the telehandler's operating limitations are understood, which will be defined on the rating plate and the specific load charts for lifting suspended loads;
 - c. Be aware of slopes, ground conditions, visibility, pedestrians and other potential hazards that may affect the safe operation of the telehandler;
 - d. Operations should minimise load swing through careful use of controls. Drive slowly and carefully when travelling with a suspended load;
 - e. The suspended loads should only be carried with a suitable lifting hook or attachment.



As supervisors and operators you have a **personal and legal responsibility** to ensure telehandlers are used safely.

**If it is not safe to start, or carry on, working –
Stop and inform your supervisor.**