

Overview

This standard is about recovering casualty vehicles using advanced winching techniques.

For the purpose of this standard casualty vehicles include light, commercial, heavy goods and public service vehicles.

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Performance

Criteria

- You must be able to:
- P1 wear suitable personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - P2 conduct all winching activities following:
 - P2.1 legal requirements
 - P2.2 workplace procedures
 - P2.3 industry codes of practice
 - P2.4 health and safety requirements
 - P2.5 manufacturer's operating instructions
 - P2.6 operator's licence compliance requirements
 - P2.7 the Environment Agency's hazardous waste regulations
 - P3 carry out a dynamic risk assessment of the casualty vehicle and its location prior to commencing winching activities
 - P4 continue to assess the situation throughout the winching operation
 - P5 make justifiable decisions for a course of action based upon the information gained from your initial assessment of the situation
 - P6 work in a way which minimises risk of:
 - P6.1 further damage to the vehicle
 - P6.2 contact with leakage, hazardous materials/substances or high voltage components which have not been disconnected
 - P6.3 any potential further damage to your working environment
 - P6.4 injury to self and others
 - P7 promptly inform the relevant authorities where the condition of the vehicle presents a hazard and/or the loading manoeuvre is likely to obstruct the flow of traffic
 - P8 use a recovery vehicle and equipment which:
 - P8.1 is suitable for the type, condition and weight of vehicle to be transported
 - P8.2 is suitable for the nature of the incident
 - P9 maintain the security of machinery and equipment
 - P10 gain access to the equipment safely and get into a secure working position when carrying out winching activities
 - P11 carry out routine operator maintenance on the winch unit to include power unit, drive system (shaft, chain, hydraulic, electrical or direct drive), braking system,

- other moving parts and guarding, as appropriate to machine used, following manufacturer's recommendations
- P12 carry out pre-start checks, deploy the winch rope a distance and carry out a practical check on all operating functions of the equipment including safety devices, winch controls, clutches and brakes, as appropriate, prior to winching
- P13 agree the signalling system with the winch operator and banksman as appropriate/necessary
- P14 deploy winch rope avoiding obstacles to the winching process
- P15 assess the operational and environmental requirements and plan safe and efficient winch route
- P16 identify (and calculate) the different resistances to winching when recovering a vehicle

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Knowledge and understanding

You must know and understand:

Legislative and organisational requirements and procedures

- K1 the legal requirements and industry codes of practice governing scene protection and winching operations
- K2 the importance of wearing the appropriate PPE
- K3 how and why to initiate and maintain effective communication when preparing a winching operation
- K4 the implications of working at height in relation to routine operator checks and basic maintenance
- K5 how to carry out an appropriate risk assessment and use this assessment to determine collection and transportation of vehicles
- K6 the importance of informing the relevant authorities/responsible parties where winching operations are likely to affect other traffic
- K7 the limits of your authority for dealing with hazardous substances or alternative fuel vehicles
- K8 emergency planning and procedures for the scene
- K9 the referral process for dealing with unexpected issues
- K10 the principles of winch theory, resistances to winching a casualty and stabilisation of the recovery vehicle
- K11 the methods used to change direction of pull or to gain a mechanical advantage from the winch
- K12 causes of, and how to prevent potential pollution and environmental damage when preparing a winching operation
- K13 the function of all operating controls for a winch
- K14 the points to inspect on the winch rope and terminal fixings, the range and signs of possible winch rope damage and the limits to winch rope wear and tear that are acceptable for winching
- K15 the bearing capacity of pulley anchor strops in various configurations
- K16 the safety clearance/safety zone from the winch rope that should be observed
- K17 the ancillary equipment used when winching different vehicle types
- K18 the types, purpose and use of relevant vehicle recovery equipment
- K19 the importance of carrying out a daily check on the recovery vehicle
- K20 the safe working loads for recovery equipment, axle weights and stability

Scope/range

1. Ancillary equipment includes:

- 1.1. shackles
- 1.2. snatch blocks
- 1.3. chains
- 1.4. strops
- 1.5. capstan
- 1.6. anchor points

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