

1 September 2021

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See **Distribution**

Dear Sir/Madam

CIRCULAR ON MEASURES TO PREVENT MATERIALS SPILLAGE FROM TIPPER TRUCKS

Spillage of materials from trucks on public roads not only impacts the cleanliness of our environment but also endangers the safety of other motorists. Materials like earth and sand can spill from a truck that brakes suddenly, makes a sharp turn on the road or travels up a slope. Spillage is also likely to occur when a truck is filled beyond the recommended capacity of the truck and/or the height of the tailboard. When trucks parked illegally on the grass verge move off, the soil is also scattered onto the public roads.

2 In view of the safety risks posed by materials spillage on roads, we would like to remind companies and employers that own tipper trucks and employ drivers to adopt the following measures:

- (i) ensure that trucks are installed with suitable flap covers;
- (ii) replace faulty or torn flap covers and ensure covers are functioning well, before moving into a public place;
- (iii) remind drivers to ensure that the flap covers are in working order and not torn and the trucks are not overloaded;
- (iv) remind drivers to ensure that the truck loads are secured by ropes or other proper material and are completely and adequately covered by the flap cover before they drive off; and
- (v) remind drivers to drive safely to prevent materials spillage.

3 Companies and employers should be aware of the legislations stated directly below, and to communicate the same to relevant employees.

3.1 Under Section 19(1) of the Environmental Public Health Act, it is an offence to drop or spill noxious liquid, dirt, sand, earth or other similar materials in any public place. Offenders shall be liable on conviction - (i) for first conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000; (ii) for second conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$4,000; and (iii) in the case of a third or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000.

3.2 Under Regulation 14(2) of the Environmental Public Health (Public Cleansing) Regulations, it is an offence to convey sand, earth, gravel or other similar materials in any vehicle along any street unless such materials are completely and adequately covered. Owners and/or drivers of such trucks who do not ensure that the covers are functional and can completely and adequately cover such materials may be liable to an offence under the same regulation. Offenders shall be liable on conviction – (i) for a first offence, to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and to a further fine not exceeding \$100 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction; (ii) for a second offence, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 and to a further fine not exceeding \$200 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction; and (iii) for a third or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and to a further fine not exceeding \$500 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

3.3 Under Rule 46 of the Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Registration and Licensing) Rules, it is an offence for a motor vehicle to carry a load in excess of the maximum laden weight of the vehicle. If convicted, both the registered owner and the driver of the vehicle are each liable to (i) a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months, or to both for a first offence; and (ii) for second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or to both.

3.4 Under Rule 18 of the Road Traffic Rules, to prevent the vehicle load from falling out, the load on any vehicle on a road shall be secured by ropes or other proper material.

In addition to the above-mentioned penalties, the liable parties who caused damage(s) to the public roads would be required to pay for the costs of the removal of materials spillage and the repair of the affected road.

4 We would appreciate it if you could bring to the attention of your members the contents in this circular. If you require any clarification, please contact:

- a. BCA customer service hotline: 1800-3425-222 or via www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform;
- b. LTA customer service hotline: 1800 2255 582 or via www.lta.gov.sg/feedback; and
- c. NEA: Feedback form via <http://www.nea.gov.sg/feedback> or myENV mobile application.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully



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