

Prepare the concrete mixer truck for operation

Overview**What is this standard about?**

This standard is about preparing the concrete mixer truck for operation and checking it before driving on public roads. It covers the physical checks that a driver must make on the concrete mixer and the documentation they are required to complete to comply with legal and organisational requirements before the start of each driving duty. It also covers the use of the concrete mixer truck controls to maximise safety and fuel efficiency, and knowledge of the factors that affect fuel efficiency and the safety of other road users.

Who is this standard for?

This standard is relevant to drivers of concrete mixer trucks and those who are responsible for concrete mixer trucks within logistics organisations.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. comply with the organisational procedures and all relevant legal, environmental, health and safety and operating requirements relating to concrete mixer truck operations
2. undertake vehicle pre-start checks in line with manufacturers instructions and record in line with relevant legal and organisational requirements
3. check that all concrete mixer truck systems, controls, and instruments are working, and that the vehicle is roadworthy
4. inspect the ancillary equipment
5. undertake concrete mixer truck post start checks in line with manufacturer's instructions and record in line with relevant legal and organisational requirements
6. check that all required legal documents are in place for the driver and concrete mixer truck
7. adjust the concrete mixer truck steering wheel, mirrors and seat for maximum control, observation, and comfort
8. confirm that all required signage is in place and visible for the load being carried
9. take the required action when any defects with the concrete mixer truck are identified, following organisational procedures
10. identify the person responsible for officially releasing the concrete mixer truck for driving, following organisational procedures
11. complete all organisational documentation relating to preparing the concrete mixer truck for driving

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the organisational procedures and all relevant legal, environmental, health and safety, and operating requirements relating to driving the concrete mixer truck on public roads
2. the hazards associated with handling ready mixed concrete
3. the risk assessments and safe operating procedures for the task
4. the responsibilities of the driver for the concrete mixer truck and load, including vehicle security
5. how the product can be affected by time, weather and temperature
6. the pre start checks that drivers are required to carry out
7. how to check the concrete mixer truck systems, controls, and instruments to ensure the vehicle is roadworthy
8. the post start checks that drivers are required to carry out
9. how to inspect the ancillary equipment
10. where to find information on the operation of the concrete mixer truck systems, controls and instruments
11. the relevant legal documents that must be in place before the concrete mixer truck is driven
12. the importance of adjusting the steering wheel, mirrors and seat to suit the driver and maximise control, observation and comfort
13. the importance of minimising blind spots by adjusting the visual aids
14. how to find information on the concrete mix being carried
15. the indicators of any potential electrical or mechanical problems with the concrete mixer truck
16. the organisational procedures for reporting defects and how to obtain information on previously reported problems
17. the documents your organisation requires you to complete during the preparation process and to carry with you in the concrete mixer truck
18. how to safely start and shut down the concrete mixer truck

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Glossary

Controls: accelerator, clutch, footbrake, handbrake, steering wheel, gears, indicators, lights, windscreen wipers, demisters, heating and ventilation, Power Take Off (PTO), differential lock

Instruments: gauges, warning lights, displays, audible alerts, tachograph, telematics, slump gauge tyre-pressure indicators, coolant levels, oil levels, air pressure

Legal, safety and operating requirements: Highway Code, transport regulations, safety regulations, codes of practice, organisational requirements

Vehicle systems: Ignition, electrical, lights, brakes, transmission, engine, fuel, tyres, coupling, information technology, digital, communications and telemetry systems, ancillary equipment, loading, unloading, temperature control

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Relevant Occupations	Transport Drivers and Operatives
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Suite	Driving Goods Vehicles
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