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Advertising feature

Roadway Magazine March 2024

Tailift Stay Safe

Protecting drivers with Tailift Stay Safe (TLSS)

A new to the market tail-lift safety system is revolutionising the way the transport industry is working, providing safer conditions for all.

Tailift Stay Safe (TLSS), a new tail-lift perimeter protection system, offering improved driver/operator safety, alongside reduced costs, and risk for businesses.

The dangers associated with operating tail-lift vehicles is significant and the risks affect drivers, the public, product, your customers, and your business.

Niven Whiteoak and Carol Helm of Fleet Assess, who have brought the patented product to market, highlight many incidents involved in manoeuvring loads such as pallets, with numerous incidents reported annually of both loads and drivers falling from tail-lifts.

This means that preventable accidents occur each year, with serious driver or operator injuries and fatalities. Tailift Stay Safe was designed and developed by Niven and Carol, who between them have over 60 years' experience in the transport sector.

"With multiple deliveries each shift, it's easy for drivers to lose spatial awareness while manoeuvring pallets and cages onto tail-lifts," said Niven Whiteoak. "Solid safety gates have been fitted for years, but they can take time to deploy, are easily damaged or lost, require continued maintenance and can be restrictive, reducing the working space on the platform."

The unique benefit of the TLSS is that it is exceptionally quick and simple to use, being able to be deployed within 15 seconds. The system also brings the added benefit of costing less than existing, less effective solutions.

So how does the system work in practice?

"Fixed retaining arms keep the rear doors in position, offering full side protection from passing traffic and falls from the side of the tail-lift," said Carol. "Then a retractable strap across the rear of the tail-lift helps protect against falls from the rear. It is a simple, elegant, and a fast solution which we have developed in conjunction with one of our logistics clients over the last 4 years."

TLSS is easy and inexpensive to install and can be retrofitted to trucks, trailers or vans in under an hour. Customers have reported back on other benefits such as not having to step into a live lane to fold the doors back, added weather protection, quicker door restraint and added working space. It doesn't affect the doors being fully folded back, allowing bay operations. Whether it is specified for new equipment or retrofitted to existing vehicles, TLSS fits seamlessly, ensuring a smart design without compromise, providing up to 350mm more available unrestricted platform space than other systems.



Above:
Niven Whiteoak and Carol Helm of Fleet Assess

Left:
Steve packing TLSS systems before dispatch

**|| The unique benefit
of the TLSS is that it is
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TLSS is tough, offering excellent resistance to damage, maintenance-free and is permanently attached to the vehicle body, meaning that there are no loose parts to lose or leave behind.

In addition to the obvious benefits of safety, the TLSS system helps protect against the wider effects of delivery incidents. Missed deliveries, lost time, damage to reputation, insurance claims, legal claims, some operators reporting reduced insurance premiums if fitting the system.

Driver training is simple, and our customers quickly integrate training and risk assessments into driver inductions.

TLSS's very first customer H&M Distribution, worked with Fleet Assess to trial the system and now fully embraces it.

"Our staff have embraced this system because it's part of their welfare," said Dean

Woodyer, MD of H&M Distribution. "We place great emphasis on the safety of the public, the goods in transit and, most importantly, the safety of our drivers. For us, comprehensive training, and using TLSS, means we can sleep easier at night."

Another happy customer Moody Logistics and Storage were recently named the North's Top Road Safety Operator by *Transport News*, as a result of investment in their health and safety measures, including fitting the Tailift Stay Safe to their distribution fleet, installed by their group company Heathline Commercials.

Richard Moody, Operations Director at Moody Logistics and Storage said: "The welfare of our staff and the public is paramount, and as a result, we fitted the Tailift Stay Safe safety mechanism to our local delivery trucks. The rear door retaining arms and retractable strap act as a safety barrier protecting our drivers as they work and have been well received internally. There is always an element of risk connected with the haulage sector, with shifting loads or falls from tail-lift areas of particular concern, but with these new measures, we hope to further reduce that risk and reinforce a safety-first culture."

And finally... it goes without saying, Fleet Assess Ltd, the national trailer rental company, specifies TLSS on all tail-lift trailers supplied.

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