



V.032017

1921 Safety Guidance

Mini Excavator Trailer

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.



It is important to read all of this leaflet BEFORE using the Mini Excavator Trailer

- Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
- It is important to read all of this leaflet and others provided before you use the Mini Excavator Trailer.
- If your vehicle/trailer combination exceeds 3.5 tonnes and you are "at work", then the tachograph rules apply. Find out about tachographs.
- This Mini Excavator Trailer is designed solely to carry a mini excavator, up to its rated carrying capacity, being towed by a road legal vehicle on made up roads. It must not be used for any other purpose.
- It must not be used for carrying passengers or livestock.
- The use of this Mini Excavator Trailer can cause injury or damage if it is not used in a careful and controlled way.
- You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: a safety helmet complying with EN12491, safety glasses, high-visibility clothing complying with EN471 when working on the public highway or on a construction site.
- You should not use this Mini Excavator Trailer unless you are authorised, and have an appropriate driving licence. See Driving Licence.
- This Mini Excavator Trailer must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- The manual manoeuvring of this Mini Excavator Trailer should be carried out by one or more able bodied adults. Anyone with either a temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

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HAE Association Europe
2450 Regents Court
The Crescent
Salford Business Park
Salford M57 7YE

Telephone: 44 (0) 121 380 4800
Fax: 44 (0) 121 333 4109
Email: mail@hae.org.uk
Website: www.hae.org.uk

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For guidance on managing construction health risks go to www.hse.gov.uk/construction

USING THE MINI EXCAVATOR TRAILER

The addition of a loaded trailer to a vehicle will inevitably have a very serious effect on the vehicle's performance.

- Starting, particularly on hills, will be difficult. Stopping can take longer distances.
- Cornering and negotiating sharp bends requires extra care.
- The rate of acceleration will be reduced. Driving style will need to be modified. The performance mentioned above will require:
- Greater concentration.
- The additional length will require greater care when overtaking and cornering.
- Reduced acceleration will require longer distances required when overtaking.
- On side winds will be more noticeable.
- The slipstream and suction effect of large commercial vehicles can affect the stability of the vehicle.
- You must not exceed the speed limits. The driver of the towing vehicle in these circumstances must comply with the Drivers' hours and Tachograph Rules for Goods Vehicles in the UK and /Europe. These rules can be obtained from the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (www.vosa.gov.uk).
- If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.

Please store this leaflet safely. It may be required for further information

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OPERATORS

- The driver of the towing vehicle has the responsibility for the safe operation of the towing vehicle and trailer.
- The driver of the towing vehicle must hold an appropriate driving licence to tow this trailer.
- The driver of the towing vehicle must establish that the towing vehicle is capable of towing the trailer safely. The vehicle manufacturer's recommended towing limit, which is found in vehicle manufacturer's handbook and on the VIN plate on the Maximum Gross Weight (G.V.W.) of the trailer will be found on the identification plate, normally located in the 'A' frame, close to the towing hitch.
- The driver of the towing vehicle must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment:
- A safety helmet, complying with EN 1397, when working on a construction site.
- Strong gloves for handling wire ropes.
- High-visibility clothing complying with EN471 when working on the public highway or on a construction site.
- Any other appropriate personal protective equipment.

Before Starting Work...

For guidance on managing construction health risks go to www.hse.gov.uk/construction

LOADING A HITCHED MINI EXCAVATOR TRAILER

Always apply the towing vehicle hitched trailer is considerably more stable than when unhitched. The jockey wheel must be left raised.

- Ensure the jockey wheel is fully raised and the rear support legs are lowered and clamped.
- Follow instructions 6 to 13 on overload.

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INSURANCE

- Under the terms of hire, you are responsible for the safe custody of the Mini Excavator Trailer. You must also indemnify your hire company against any loss or damage to the trailer or any equipment you do this to take out proper insurance.
- Some hire companies will offer insurance cover at an extra charge.
- You should establish with the insurers of the towing vehicle that you are insured to property belonging to a third party, or if you are involved in a road traffic accident.
- If you are in any doubt about your insurance cover, check with your hire company.
- Great care should be taken when loading a Mini Excavator Trailer.
- Always apply the handbook. In addition it may be necessary to check the wheels on the trailer.
- When you need to move a trailer manually, raise and securely clamp the rear support legs, leaving the jockey wheel down. A

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