

## SECTION 6 EFFECTIVE FREIGHT HANDLING

- 6.1 Freight sense
- 6.2 Principles of Good Stowage
- 6.3 Dangerous Goods
- 6.4 Loading & Route Restrictions
- 6.5 Claim Prevention

For equivalent guidance in respect of road conveyance, see Section 3 of this Manual.

### 6.1 FREIGHT SENSE

#### DO...

- ✓ Clean out wagons after use.
- ✓ Ensure doors are closed before movement.
- ✓ Report wagons with damaged or faulty equipment, and **DO NOT** use them.  
(0800 351-351 KiwiRail Customer Service Center)

#### DO...

- ✓ Make sure the **load space** and **platform condition** are **suitable** for the size and type of load.
- ✓ Use the **right equipment** and edge protectors.
- ✓ Make sure **anchorage points** are secure.
- ✓ Check that **lashings** are **strong enough** and in **good condition**.
- ✓ **Tighten** all lashings and restraining devices.
- ✓ Use **fixed restraints** where possible.
- ✓ Use lots of **wedges, dunnage** and **chocks** to prevent movement.
- ✓ **Check** size, height, width and load position.
- ✓ **Return all equipment** that was temporarily removed from any vehicle, wagon or truck.
- ✓ Make sure that equipment is **licensed** or **certified** for the purpose and **rated** to the capacity you need.

#### DO NOT...

- ✗ **Do not overload anything**, particularly equipment, the container, the wagon, or the road vehicle.
- ✗ **Do not attempt difficult or heavy lifts on your own.**
- ✗ **Do not use rope hooks** to restrain heavy loads.
- ✗ **Do not leave anything loose** lying around.
- ✗ **Do not move any vehicle if any part of the load is unsecured.**
- ✗ **Do not take risks.**
- ✗ **Do not operate equipment if you are unsure of it.**
- ✗ **Do not operate equipment if you are not licensed or certified** to use it.
- ✗ **Do not open or close canopy or fibreglass doors with forklifts.**
- ✗ **Do not use wagons with items removed or altered.**

## 6.2 PRINCIPLES OF GOOD STOWAGE

### DO...

- ✓ Handle all freight **with care**.
- ✓ Respect **FRAGILE** labels
- ✓ Assess sizes and volumes, and work out the best loading pattern **before** you start loading.
- ✓ Load **heaviest** at the **bottom**.
- ✓ Load **lightest** and **fragile** freight at the **top**.
- ✓ Use **headboards** and **bulkheads** for extra stability.
- ✓ Fit packages as **snugly** as possible.
- ✓ Load narrow freight **lengthwise**.
- ✓ Use **dunnage** and **spreader boards** to improve security.
- ✓ **Separate** and **protect** irregular shaped freight.
- ✓ Use **edge and bore protection** where needed.
- ✓ Think how goods will be **unloaded** and make it easy to get at goods coming off first.
- ✓ Keep **doorways clear**.
- ✓ **Distribute weight evenly**.

### THINK PREVENTION...

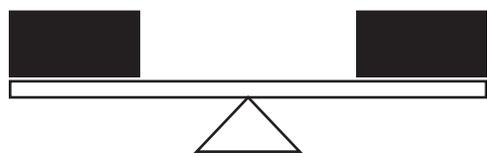
What might move?  
 What might come loose?  
 How can you prevent it?

### ALWAYS...

Identify and separate **dangerous goods**.

### DO NOT...

✗ **DO NOT** load **damaged** freight. Tell your supervisor.



## 6.3 DANGEROUS GOODS

See Section 7 of this Manual for further details about documentation, labeling and the distribution of documentation.

Detailed procedures are also contained in the Rail Operating Code Supplement CS 3.3.

## 6.4 LOADING & ROUTE RESTRICTIONS

Code Amendment Notice provide a facility for urgent updating this Manual. This is an important notification and needs to be referred to when looking up information and rules about these restrictions.

The size and type of containers, wagons and vehicles sets limits on what can be carried. These limits are usually:

- ➔ **Size** (length, width, height).
- ➔ **Overall weight.**
- ➔ **Weight distribution.**

### NORMAL EVERYDAY RAIL STANDARDS

The following are the normal everyday rail standards:

- ➔ The normal load length standard maximum is 13.1 m but loads up to 18 m may be carried on the rail network without special authority on some wagons.
- ➔ The load is carried on **one** wagon only with no part of the load or lashing extending beyond the SLG line shown on Diagram 22.3 nor overhanging the load platform. Standard containers are an exception to this rule. Special provisions apply for Inter Island Line.
- ➔ The load is less than the loadplate limit for the wagon. KiwiRail's Fleet and Equipment Catalogue gives definitive listings of the carrying capacity and dimensions of all KiwiRail's wagons and containers.
- ➔ Containers of the following or lesser dimensions:  
2.5 m wide × 2.6 m high (at the corners) and not exceeding 2.7 m over any central dome or hatch. Section 12 of this Manual gives more detail on container restrictions.
- ➔ The wagon, including curtains and doors, fully encloses the load.
- ➔ The load does not exceed the axle load limits over any part of its route. Section 22 of the Manual gives details of axle load limitations.
- ➔ The COG of the load and/or container is within acceptable limits as detailed in Section 22 of this Manual.

## LARGE AND LONG LOADS BY RAIL

Loads exceeding normal dimension and weight limits may still be able to travel on rail, but only under strict and specific conditions. More detail is given in Section 22 of this Manual. To obtain a permit for an overgauge load, contact either:

- ➔ KiwiRail Key Account Executive (KAE), or
- ➔ Your KiwiRail Terminal Manager

### 6.5 CLAIM PREVENTION

The start of remedial action begins with, the detection of a quality-related issue, customer dissatisfaction, or in the extreme case, a claim.

At the first onset of any dissatisfaction talk to your Customer Service Representative.

It should be noted that the correct concept of prevention is closely linked to continuous improvement.

#### PREVENTION

Effective action requires a pro-active stance, and a willingness to identify the root cause or causes of problems which might lead to a claim.

The following are significant in preventing and overcoming Freight Handling claims:

- ➔ Clear and legible addressing
- ➔ A form of packaging that maintains the load and its packaging as one secure integral unit
- ➔ A clearly defined set of loading practices
- ➔ On-going training for freight handling staff and
- ➔ Adequate supervision
- ➔ Correct securing of freight in a wagon or container