

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Policy No: 39

Wearing of Seat Belts in Vehicles

Review Dates:

Original Issue	10 December 2014
Board Approved	30 October 2019
Due for Review	

Background

A number of accidents have resulted in operators attempting to jump clear of an unstable machine and being struck by the Roll Over Protection System (ROPS) or being thrown about the cab of the machine during a roll over. Injuries sustained are usually major, causing entrapment and crushing type injuries.

Regulations

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 requires employers to provide safe plant and machinery and this includes all vehicles and heavy plant. The Provision and use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 supports this requirement in that all new vehicles now supplied are to be fitted with seat belts and should be worn.

The Health and Safety at work Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 imposes duties on employees to use all machinery, equipment and safety devices as trained or instructed. Therefore, where vehicles are fitted with seat belts they must be worn.

In line with current vehicle training, and the Regulations and Act referred to above, the policy of the Board is that all vehicle operators must wear seat belts if fitted.