Calling all drivers and contractors

CLOCS Standard: Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Safety - what does it mean for you?

Why does it matter?
- Every year there are deaths and serious injuries to cyclists, pedestrians, motorcyclists and other vulnerable road users following collisions with construction delivery vehicles.
- The mineral products and construction industries work very hard to minimise incidents and injuries on site and the same attitude should be applied to what happens on the road.
- Professional industry drivers are skilled and do not want to harm other road users – the VRU initiative aims to help and support drivers and other road users.
- This is not just about drivers – action is taking place to improve cyclist awareness and behaviour and to identify and improve road and junction layout.

What’s happening?
- All parts of the construction industry and supply chain are now working together to improve VRU safety.
- The national Construction Logistics and Cyclist Safety (CLOCS) Standard sets out requirements for companies and drivers delivering construction materials and contractors/clients. MPA is a CLOCS champion and leading contributor to the Standard.
- MPA’s Vulnerable Road User Safety Policy (launched in 2012) which sets out requirements for members, is now aligned with CLOCS.

What should you do?
- Companies and drivers delivering construction materials should:
  - Have an approved independent fleet management audit – eg Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) – introduced by TfL in London but now rolled out nationally.
  - Have a procedure to check that driving licences are valid.
  - Have a system to identify and report road collisions involving VRUs.
  - Stick to agreed delivery routes unless directed otherwise.
  - Fit warning signs to help alert VRUs to potential dangers.
  - Ensure tippers have side under-run protection offside and nearside.
  - Eliminate all driver blind spots by fitting mirrors and sensors/cameras.
  - Fit audible warnings for turning left and reversing.
  - Undertake vulnerable road user safety training for drivers.
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Contractors and Clients should:
- Implement a construction logistics plan in partnership with delivery businesses
- Ensure that construction sites are suitable for vehicles with safety features such as side under-run protection
- Ensure sites have safe access and egress for vehicles
- Ensure that sites have safe conditions for vehicle unloading and loading
- Ensure that suitable routing to sites is agreed and communicated with delivery businesses
- Consider options to minimise peak/rush hour deliveries in partnership with delivery businesses

MPA policy also requires:
- Delivery vehicles to be conspicuous – light coloured and/or have reflective side and rear markings
- All tippers to be sheeted for delivery

What does all the jargon mean?

CLOCS – Construction Logistics and Cyclist Safety, the national standard for construction logistics. The most current CLOCS Standard can be found at www.clocs.org.uk

FORS – Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (introduced by Transport for London in London and now rolled out nationally) - www.fors-online.org.uk

MPA – Mineral Products Association. Represents the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and silica sand industries. Operates a Vulnerable Road User Safety Policy which is aligned with CLOCS - www.mineralproducts.org

MPQC – Mineral Products Qualifications Council. Runs CPC approved Driver VRU training courses which meet CLOCS requirements. Sign up for the MPQC Safeguarding Vulnerable Road Users course at www.mpskills.co.uk or by calling the Driver Skills Card Number - 0115 983 5755

MWRRR – Managing Work Related Road Risk (ie by operating to CLOCS)

TfL - Transport for London. TfL has taken a leading role in VRU safety and facilitated the development of CLOCS - www.tfl.gov.uk

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The Mineral Products Association is the trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and silica sand industries.

For further MPA information visit www.mineralproducts.org

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