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

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1417 Safety Guidance
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FTH HIRE GROUP

Water Bowser

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 this entire leaflet BEFORE using the Water Bowser. IT IS NOT SUITABLE FOR DRINKING WATER.

1. It is important that you read all of this leaflet and any others provided before using the water bowser.
2. Water kept in this bowser is not suitable for drinking provided before using the water bowser.
3. Moving this water bowser can cause injury or damage if not done in a careful and controlled way, especially if it contains water.
4. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure that you are always working safely – read the recommendations in the "Using the water bowser" section of this leaflet.
5. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) whilst moving or positioning the equipment:
   - Boots or protective footwear to a minimum EN345
   - Rubberised Gloves
6. This water bowser must not be installed by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
7. This water bowser is designed to be installed by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability musk seek expert advice before doing so.
8. Take care whilst loading/moving this equipment; in particular onto and off vehicles, as it weight is unevenly distributed. Observe good lifting practise and where possible, share the load.
9. Take care when using water under pressure.

Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference

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Useful Reference Points • www.hae.org.uk/businessguard

Before Starting Work...

TOWING

1. Before you tow this bowser, ensure that your current driving licence and insurance allow you to do so.
2. Ensure that you observe the correct procedure for attaching and removing this bowser from your vehicle.
3. Observe the legal requirements regarding lighting boards and correct methods of connecting to your vehicles tow hitch.
4. Ensure that any safety devices fitted to the towing bar and ball hitch are fitted, engaged and used correctly.
5. When towing a water bowser you are restricted to a maximum speed of 50mph on single carriage roads, and 60 mph on dual carriage roads and motorways, provided no lower limit is in force. You are not allowed to use the outside lane on motorways when towing.
6. If you tow a smaller water bowser without braks, the weight of the unit is limited to 50% of the kerb weight of the car or 750kg, whichever is less.
7. When towing larger water bowsers that have braks fitted, the weight of the bowser should not generally exceed 85% of the kerb weight
8. Your vehicle manufacturers will state the maximum towing limit in the vehicle handbook. You must take into account the water which may be in the unit. It is recommended that where possible liquid is removed when transporting the unit.
9. Check the condition of the tyres and tyre pressure regularly.
10. You will need to be aware that a vehicle when towing will take longer to stop, accelerate and turn than a vehicle on its own.
11. The towing bar will be supplied with a break away cable – ensure this is fitted around your vehicles bar assembly and not the tow ball unit.

OPERATORS

1. The following items or personal protective equipment (ppe) must be used as a minimum.
2. Safety boots or protective footwear to a minimum of EN345.
3. Protective rubberised gloves (to protect from cold).
4. Anyone working near to you will also need to use ppe.

USING THE WATER BOWSER

1. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no one is near to you or could distract you.
2. Protect other people from the risk associated with the movement of the water bowser. If appropriate warn others to keep away, place barriers around your work area.
3. The water bowser should be sited on a firm level surface. Ensure the chocks are used to prevent the wheels moving. Do not position the bower on uneven or sloping surfaces.
4. Site the bowser away from electrical, and other utility services, and, where possible, away from roads, paths or where other people gather.
5. Ensure the hoses, when used with the water bowser, are laid out carefully avoiding sharp edges, doorways or windows where they might get trapped, and paths or other places which may present a tripping hazard for pedestrians.

INSURANCE

1. Under the terms of hire, you are responsible for the safe custody of the equipment. You must indemnify the hire company against loss or unreasonable damage such as vandalism. The best way to achieve this is by insurance.
2. However, you must always secure the equipment yourself against theft or vandalism.
3. Some hire companies will offer insurance cover at an extra charge.
4. In addition, you should be aware that if you cause damage to property belonging to a third party, or if you are involved in a highway accident, it is unlikely those normal insurance policies will give you any protection.
5. If you are in doubt about your insurance cover, check with the hire company or your insurer straight away
6. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work.