

1 Sep 2025

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See **Distribution**

Dear Sir/Madam

CIRCULAR ON MEASURES TO PREVENT MATERIALS SPILLAGE FROM TIPPER/ CEMENT TRUCKS

Spillage of materials from trucks on public roads not only impacts the cleanliness of our environment but also endangers the safety of other motorists. Materials like earth and sand can spill from a truck that brakes suddenly, makes a sharp turn on the road or travels up a slope. Spillage is also likely to occur when a truck is filled beyond the maximum laden weight (MLW) of the truck and/or the height of the tailboard. When trucks parked illegally on the grass verge move off, the soil is also scattered onto the public roads. The Land Transport Authority (LTA) conducts regular enforcement operations to address vehicle overloading violations by commercial operators and their drivers. From Jan to May 2025, over 1600 heavy vehicle operators have been issued with composition sums and summonses for exceeding the MLW.

2 In view of the safety risks posed by materials spillage on roads, we would like to remind companies operating trucks/ cement trucks to adopt the following measures:

- (i) Ensure that trucks are installed with suitable flap covers and cement trucks are fitted with a containment system to prevent spillage of materials onto the road.
- (ii) Conduct regular checks on flap covers, ensuring they are intact and functioning well. Replace any faulty or torn covers promptly before moving into public areas.
- (iii) Ensure that trucks/cement trucks do not exceed the MLW as this poses a hazard to both drivers and other road users.
- (iv) Remind drivers to ensure that the truck loads are:
 - below the height of the truck's tailboard,
 - properly secured, and
 - completely covered by the flap cover before they drive off.
- (v) Remind drivers to drive safely to prevent materials spillage.

3 Companies and employers should be aware of the legislations stated directly below, and to communicate the same to relevant employees.

(i) Section 19(1), Environmental Public Health Act 1987)

- It is an offence to drop, scatter, spill or throw any noxious liquid, dirt, sand, earth, gravel, clay, loam, manure, refuse, sawdust, shavings, stone, straw or any other similar matter or thing in public places.
- It is an offence to cause or permit any noxious liquid, dirt, sand, earth, gravel, clay, loam, manure, refuse, sawdust, shavings, stone, straw or any other similar matter or thing to be dropped, scattered, spilled or thrown in public places
- Penalties:
 - 1st conviction: Fine up to \$2,000
 - 2nd conviction: Fine up to \$4,000
 - 3rd or subsequent convictions: Fine up to \$10,000

(ii) Regulation 14(2), Environmental Public Health (Public Cleansing) Regulations)

- It is an offence to convey or cause or permit to be conveyed, any refuse, sand, earth, granite chips, gravel, clay, manure, shavings, stone, straw or any other similar matter or thing in any vehicle through or along any street unless the refuse, sand, earth, granite chips, gravel, clay, manure, shavings, stone, straw or matter or thing is completely covered in a manner that ensures that the refuse, sand, earth, granite chips, gravel, clay, manure, shavings, stone, straw or matter or thing is not dropped, scattered or spilled from the vehicle. Owners and/or drivers of such trucks who do not ensure that the covers are functional and can completely and adequately cover such materials may be liable to an offence under the same regulation.
- Penalties:
 - 1st offence: Fine up to \$1,000 and a further fine not exceeding \$100 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction
 - 2nd offence: Fine up to \$2,000 and a further fine not exceeding \$200 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction
 - 3rd or subsequent offences: Fine up to \$5,000 and a further fine not exceeding \$500 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction

(iii) Overloading Vehicles (Rule 46, Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Registration & Licensing) Rules)

- Vehicles must not carry more than their legal weight limit. Overloading can cause safety hazards.
- Penalties:
 - 1st offence: Fine up to \$1,000, jail up to 3 months, or both
 - 2nd or subsequent offences: Fine up to \$2,000, jail up to 6 months, or both

4 In addition to the above-mentioned penalties, the liable parties who caused damage(s) to the public roads may be required to pay for the costs of the removal and clean-up of materials spillage and the repair of the affected road.

5 We would appreciate it if you could bring to the attention of your members the contents in this circular. If you require any clarification, please contact:

- (i) BCA customer service hotline: 1800-3425-222 or via <https://www2.bca.gov.sg/feedback/>
- (ii) LTA customer service hotline: 1800 2255 582 or via www.lta.gov.sg/feedback; and
- (iii) NEA: Feedback form via <https://www.nea.gov.sg/feedback> or myENV mobile application.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully



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