

## Loading and Unloading Trucks with A-Frame Supports

Refer to sign-in sheet for attendees (note: a separate meeting should be held with all absent employees).

### 1. Overview:

The following slab-handling safety guidelines have been developed to ensure the safe loading and unloading of stone slab A-Frame supports on flatbed trucks. When used in tandem with your own company's operating and safety procedures they can help safeguard your well-being and protect other workers and customers who visit your facility.

### 2. Loading a Flatbed Truck with A-Frame Supports:

- When loading a flatbed truck with an A-frame, there should be a spotter on the ground and on the truck.
- The spotter on the bed of the truck should use a means fall protection to prevent a fall from the truck bed.
- The A-frame must be checked prior to loading to ensure it is securely fastened to the truck bed.
- Slabs should be loaded in rotation face-to-face and then back-to-back and so forth.
- Slabs should always be loaded onto the A-frame in a decreasing height series to prevent breaking. The tallest slabs should always be on the inside.
- When strapping slabs down on an A-frame, carpet scraps can be used to protect the slabs from rubbing against the nylon straps.
- Belly straps are placed around the slabs first, to make them secure to the A-frame. Then, the slabs in the A-frame are fastened to the truck using four-inch straps that originate on the rail of the truck, go over the top of the slabs and terminate at the other rail. Placement of the straps should be next to the uprights of the A-frame.
- The actual number of straps required varies from state to state. Consult your state's DOT for specific regulations.

### 3. Unloading:

- Use spotters to guide the slab at all times, one on the truck and one on the ground.
- The spotter on the bed of the truck should use a means fall protection to prevent a fall from the truck bed.
- When using a boom to unload slabs from an A-frame, outriggers on the truck must be secured.
- Place the boom into position above the bundles before unstrapping them.
- Put the cables around the bundle, secure the ends into the hook and lift the bundle from the A-frame. Once the bundle clears the bed of the truck it is lowered to 8-10 inches off the ground before moving to an A-frame on the ground.
- When transporting a load of slabs across the warehouse/yard attached to the boom, be sure to drive in reverse to have clear field of vision (If you travel forward the boom & the slabs block your vision of your route and spotter).

### 4. Discussion:

- Review your company's slab handling policy.
- Are you loading slabs face-to-face and back-to-back?

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## 6. RECAP/REVIEW:

- When do you need a spotter? Loading? Unloading?
- How many spotters are needed?
- Do you load the tallest slabs first?

## 7. Reminder:

- Safety is the responsibility of both management and employees!

Next Safety Meeting is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ and the topic will be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Take Exam / Review Results

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