Load fastening and securing

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Abstract—Fastening and securing the load onto vehicles prior to transport is one of the most important parts of transport preparation and has a great influence on the safety and quality of transport and consequently on the whole logistics process. With appropriate measures we can assure that the load is transported safely without any damage to it or its surroundings. The influence of load fastening and securing is an important and complex topic that is surprisingly not well researched, especially if we look at it from the perspective of potential damage to cargo, vehicles and people. The problematic of load fastening and securing is very complex, therefore we will highlight its most important views in the paper. Firstly we will outline some of the regulatory demands for load fastening and major international standards that have to be applied. Next, a short overview of different means of load fastening will be given, with special attention to discovering major issues that are most commonly the source of problems with loads during transport. Emphasis in the paper will be given to potential consequences of insufficiently or inaccurately fastened loads. We will explore causes of accidents in relation to load fastening, their consequences in terms of load damage and damages to infrastructure, suprastructure and people. A research will be presented about actual accidents that had a direct cause in inappropriate load fastening and securing. Special attention will be given to the consequence of accidents that impact insurance companies. As every load should be insured, when accidents occur, insurance companies face claims for compensation. These claims will also be researched. Finally, propositions for better practices in load fastening and securing will be made, which, when put into practice, should have a major positive influence on the safety of transportation, reduction of accidents and consequently on the reduction of insurance claims made. The contribution of the paper to scientific research will lie mostly in showing the actual complexity of the problem of load fastening and securing and also in highlighting major fields that need to be thoroughly researched in order to gain a wholesome insight into the problematic.


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