



Roads, Vehicles & Equipment

Safety Alert

Vehicle Fires

23rd August 2023

ASGrOps_SA_057

V1.0

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Safety Alert is to inform the airside community of recent incidences of electric baggage tugs catching fire or overheating airside, and precautions for both drivers and fleet operators to take to minimise the risk of this occurring.

2. Safety Considerations

- All drivers must complete a pre-use inspection of the vehicle prior to using it.
- When placing a baggage tug on charge, inspect both the plug and socket for any signs of damage. If either are damaged, do not use them and fault the equipment.
- When plugging a charging cable in, ensure the plug is properly seated to prevent arcing.
- Several thermal events involving baggage tugs airside have been the result of low water levels within the batteries. Fleet operators and maintenance providers should ensure that an appropriate maintenance routine is in place to prevent this occurring.
- If at any point the vehicle you are driving shows signs of producing smoke or flames, or smells of burning, call 222/ 020 8759 1212 immediately and request the Airport Fire Service, clearly giving your location.

Enquiries

Any questions regarding this Safety Alert should be addressed to airside_safety@heathrow.com

Additional information, Operational Safety Instructions (OSIs) and Operational Advice Notices (OANs) can be found at [heathrow.com/airside/useful-publications](https://www.heathrow.com/airside/useful-publications)

Reference:

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