

4th September 2024

ASGrOps_SA_070

V1.0

Safety Alert

High Lift Vehicle - Runway Safety Event

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Safety Alert is to highlight an incident that occurred in the early hours on the morning of 29th August, where a catering vehicle got lost and inadvertently entered the southern runway, which was closed for resurfacing works.

The vehicle had entered the airfield via Control Post 24 and had been intending to use the Cargo Tunnel contingency route, when the driver became lost and entered the manoeuvring area adjacent to the Royal Suite. They then proceeded to where they could see Airside Operations vehicles to seek assistance. Airside Operations were on the southern runway at the time, supervising runway resurfacing works.

The vehicle was subsequently escorted from the manoeuvring area. A safety investigation has been initiated.

2. Safety Considerations

- Ensure that all vehicles are equipped with a copy of the Heathrow Airfield Map.
- If you become lost on the airfield, stop in a safe place and consult the Heathrow Airfield Map. This map, along with road maps, can be found on the Airport Community App or Heathrow.com/airside.
- Using the link below to the Heathrow Airside website, ensure that colleagues are aware of and are briefed on the latest Operational Advice Notices (OANs) relating to road diversions airside. Regularly review this list for amendments and changes.
- If colleagues are required to use the Cargo Tunnel contingency route and are unfamiliar with the airfield layout, ensure that they are comprehensively briefed and consider route familiarisation.
- Ensure colleagues are clear on the positioning and meaning of double-white lines. Refer to Safety Alert ASGrOps_SA_065 for further safety considerations.

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

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