



## Notice to all Users of the Weigh Northland Gantries

September 2017

### Gantry Compliance

#### Purpose of the Gantry Compliance Process

Safe lifting equipment and competent operators are essential for minimising the risk to users of the Weigh Northland Limited gantries. The gantry compliance system is intended to ensure all practicable steps are taken to protect gantry users from unsafe gantry practices and substandard components.

Lifting gear on trailers using the Weigh Northland gantries must be inspected at least annually in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for load lifting rigging and the Log Transport Safety Council (LTSC) Industry Standards.

Only trucks/trailers which display a current LTSC lifting ID card will be permitted to use the Weigh Northland gantries. This ensures only trucks with compliant lifting gear use the facility.

When using the Weigh Northland gantries, Trucking Companies must ensure that their drivers are educated about and comply with the Gantry Operating Procedures, which are displayed at the Gantries and attached on Page 2 of this letter.

#### Note:

- *Competent Operator* – Means a person who has acquired, through a combination of qualifications, training and experience, the knowledge and skill to perform the required task.

## **Weigh Northland – Gantry Operating Procedure**

1. Before using Weigh Northland Gantries all Drivers must be fully aware of this operating procedure. Users operate this gantry at their own risk.
2. Drivers are to abide by NZTA road rules when entering the facility.
3. Personal Protective Equipment must be worn at all times. **Hi-visibility clothing, safety boots, gloves and safety helmet are mandatory.**
4. Drivers must inspect all lifting equipment before lifting takes place. (Chains, rings, anchor points, gantry wires, etc.)
5. Do not operate the gantry with anyone on the other side of your trailer. If someone is helping you, communicate clearly and agree actions before operating.
6. Swipe Dallas Tag to start. Either the green or red light will illuminate, if its green, trailer lifting can proceed. If its red there may be a problem with your tag please contact the office on 0800 HEAVY1 or 0800-432-891.
7. Use the white lines on the ground on each gantry to assist you to line your vehicle up. Line the steerer up with any of the numbers 1-5 located on the side of the cab.
8. As you look in your mirror there is a line at the gantry with "H" next to it, line your trailer up with it as this is where the hook is situated in relation to the centre of your trailer.
9. Trailer lifting ring must be under hook before lifting.
10. Stand clear when lifting the trailer. Be aware that the trailer could swing.
11. For trailers with long drawbars, be aware that tow-eyes could come into contact with the Gantries.
12. When turning drawbars, trailers must be as close as possible to the ground.
13. Moving under a suspended trailer is **prohibited at all times.**
14. **We prefer that drivers DO NOT CLIMB UP ONTO TRAILERS TO UNHOOK CHAINS.** There is an unhooking device at each gantry that you can separate your chains from the hook while on the ground, if you must climb onto the trailer you **MUST HAVE 3 POINTS OF CONTACT WITH THE TRAILER AT ALL TIMES.** Never jump down frontwards off the trailer, always climb down using the same method you used to get up.
15. Please raise hook fully and remove all bark from the trailer before leaving area.
16. Any damage, incident or hazard must be reported to Simon Adam (021 325 232) immediately.

### **Safe Working Load (SWL) as displayed at Gantry**

If in doubt, stop and contact 0800 HEAVY1 or 0800-432-891

## **Hazards Identified at the Weigh Northland Gantry**

### **Slips, Trips and Falls**

Always maintain three points of contact when climbing onto the unhooked trailer. There will be slippery surfaces in wet weather, ensure drivers wear the correct footwear and it has sufficient grip. Keep the area as clear as possible.

### **Hammerlocks**

Hammerlocks are only designed to have a single link coupled with each section. Overloading hammerlocks causes uneven forces through the pivot points which can lead to failure. See *Poster 1* in Appendix.

### **Chain Links**

Damage to chain links on the main lifting chain especially adjacent to the master ring. Damage in the region of the bridle chains has been apparent on some inspections.

### **Lifting Rig**

Incorrect set up of the lifting rig. Please ensure that lifting chains are grade 100 and compliant with LTSC standards.

### **Main Lifting Chains**

Main lifting chains need to be long enough that an angle of less than 120° is created between these chains below the main lifting ring. See *Poster 2* in Appendix.

**Always ensure your trailer is unhooked prior to driving away from the Weigh Northland Gantry**

## Declaration by Trucking Companies

TO: Weigh Northland Ltd

SUBJECT: Gantry Compliance

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Notice to Log Truck Companies.

This confirms that we have read and understood the information provided by Weigh Northland and agree to follow the Weigh Northland – Gantry Operating Procedure

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the above and scan/email back to Simon Adam, [simon@weighnorthland.co.nz](mailto:simon@weighnorthland.co.nz) with  
“Gantry Compliance” in the subject heading.

## Appendix One: Gantry Safety Posters

Poster 1

# GANTRY SAFETY

Running two chains from a single hammerlock **CAN CAUSE THE HAMMERLOCK TO FAIL.** Hammerlocks must only have a single link coupled with each section to prevent overloading and maintain a linear tension.



# GANTRY SAFETY

**ARE YOUR CHAINS LONG ENOUGH?**



THE ANGLE OF YOUR GANTRY CHAINS BELOW THE OVAL RING MUST NOT EXCEED  $120^\circ$ .



**YOUR LIFT IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK**

# GANTRY SAFETY

**LONG SIDES OF OVAL RING  
MUST BE VERTICAL**



SAFE & UNSAFE USE OF OVAL RING



**YOUR LIFT IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK**

# GANTRY SAFETY

**CHAIN SHORTENERS ARE NOT SAFE  
FOR USE ON A GANTRY**



does not allow the use of chain shorteners on the gantry.  
Chain shorteners may slip when tension lost.



**YOUR LIFT IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK**