



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency



**DON'T LET IT  
HAPPEN  
TO YOU!**

# Don't let it happen to you!

You need an operator's licence to carry goods (or burden) connected with any trade or business, if you use a motor vehicle on a road with:

- a gross plated weight of more than 3.5 tonnes; or
- if it has no gross plated weight, but an unladen weight of more than 1525 kg

An operators licence is necessary even if you use the vehicle for only a short period of time, even just one day.

**If you decide to use a vehicle without an operator's licence when you should have one, you risk having it impounded under the new regulations.**

The impounded vehicle will be either sold or scrapped after 21 days unless an application has been made to the local Traffic Commissioner for its release and the application is subsequently successful.

The only grounds for making an appeal are:

- at the time VOSA impounded the vehicle, the person using it had an operator's licence
- at the time VOSA impounded the vehicle, it's use was exempt from operator licensing
- the vehicle was being used illegally without the owner's knowledge

**Unsuccessful appeals will result in the vehicle being sold or scrapped.** There is a further right to appeal to the Transport Tribunal but the grounds are exactly the same.

If you think you might need an operator's licence - contact your local Traffic Area Office for advice before using the vehicle.

**Don't risk impounding happening to you**

\*The Goods Vehicle (Enforcement Powers) Regulations 2001