COUPLING AND UNCOUPLING

Site coupling area checklist

For the site's side of coupling and uncoupling: the area, the people and the checks. Walk it after dark as well as by day. Drivers follow their employer's procedure and HSE's guidance; never rely on the red line as a parking brake.

Site	Area or bays checked	Date and time	Checked by

The area

Check	Yes / No	Action and by whom
Coupling and drop areas marked, on level, firm ground that supports the landing legs		
Lighting good enough to check locking pins, safety clips, cables and hoses after dark		
Safe access to the fifth wheel on our own units (steps, handrail, platform with good grip)		
No pedestrian route through the coupling area		

The people

Check	Yes / No	Action and by whom
Visiting drivers told where to wait when not coupling		
Site rules on coupling sent to hauliers before drivers arrive		
Shunter drivers authorised for the vehicle and the yard (date of last review)		
Close-coupled and refrigerated trailers: split coupling covered by risk assessment and a safe system of work		

The checks

Check	Yes / No	Action and by whom
A supervisor or marshal sees couplings on each shift, including nights		
Parked trailers spot-checked: trailer brake applied, landing legs down on firm ground		
Shunter drops and collections signed off		
Defects and near misses in the coupling area reported and followed up		

Signed	Date	Next check