

# Code of Practice for the Transport of Abnormal Loads



‘A Common Approach’

# Introduction

- One common approach to Wind Turbine Delivery for the Industry.
- A clear set of guidelines for all involved.
- Stakeholder involvement and buy in.
- Level playing field for all logistics contractors.



# Risk Management

## What is an 'abnormal load'?

*'Defined as a vehicle or combination of vehicles having either no load or an indivisible load, which can only be transported by exceeding at least one of the dimensions and/or axle, bogie or total weights authorised by Directive EC 96/53 and national legislation'*

**For the Renewable Energy Industry**

## **WIND TURBINE COMPONENTS & TRANSFORMERS**



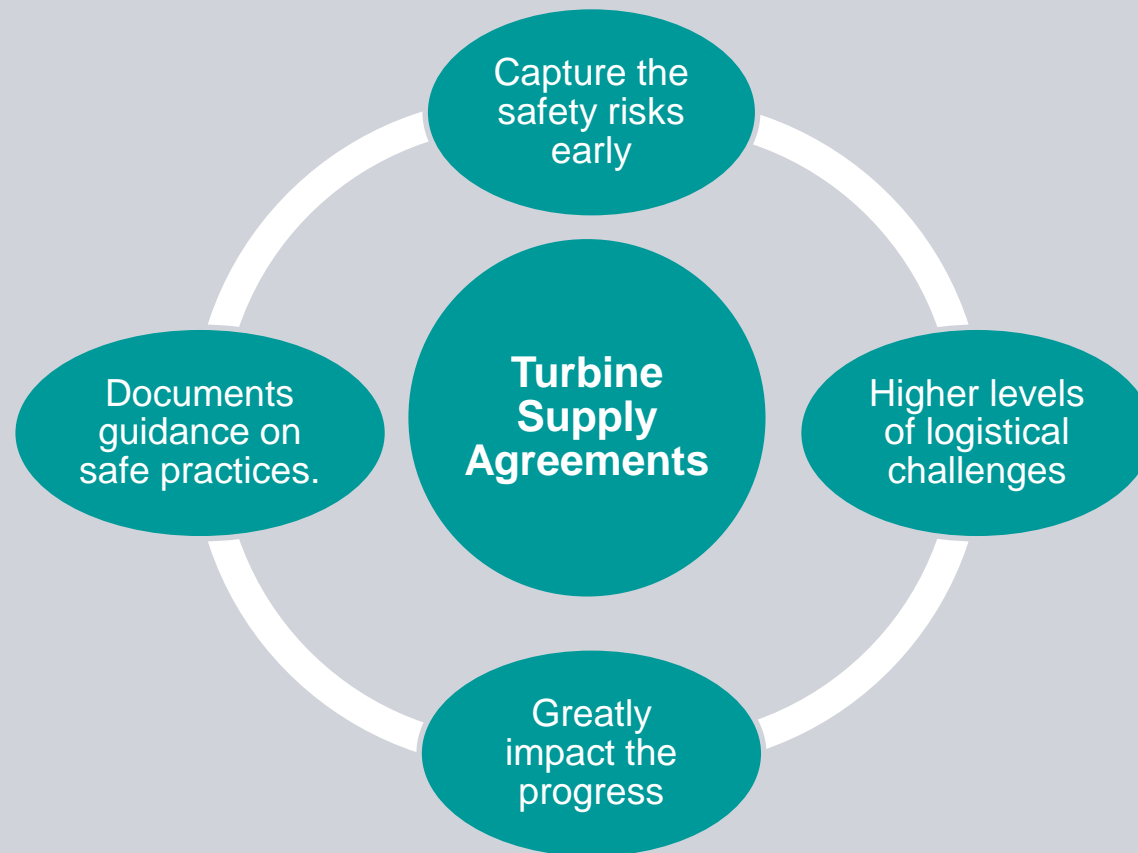
## Who Benefits?

- Turbine and Transformer Suppliers
- Designers and Consultants
- Civil Engineering Contractors
- Project Teams within renewable energy companies

## Consideration & Planning

- Previously focus has been on route planning, road upgrades and land negotiations.
- Not necessarily defining how to do it safely
- Traditionally, turbine suppliers dealt with wind turbine delivery
- Changed recently as a more integrated approach has become apparent.
- Site design stage takes into account the requirements for safe component delivery.

# Turbine Supply Agreements



# Project Planning



# Transport Management Plans

## Summary

- Summary of equipment deployed, no. of transport runs, route, escorts, delivery times, length of route

## Schedule

- Dates, component information

## Project Organisation

- Roles and Responsibilities

## Permits Register

- Register of Permits, hours of deliveries, road closures details, police escorting requirements.

## Risk Assessment

- Route Hazards, e.g. Underground and overhead services, black-spots, s-bends, festivals, weather, overhead obstacles.

## Point of Acceptance

- What happens when the delivery reaches the site entrance.



# Traffic Management Plans

## Site Familiarisation

- Driver knowledge of site, advance induction, awareness of site rules, site conditions, tool box talks

## Planning

- Off site co-ordination, police involvement, delivery notifications, clear corridors, weather windows

## Lifting

- Transfer of components from trailers to hardstands, lift plans, AP's, safe working loads, wind speeds, exclusion zones, load bearing capacity, hardstand signed off.

## Site Rules

- Break times, tachograph, compliance with hours, WAH, PPE, seat belts.

## Incident Reporting

- Contact phone numbers, breakdown and recovery, road based repairs, managing incidents

## Maintenance Records

- Truck logs and records of maintenance.

## Task Specific MS

- Safe Working systems for each component, anything different about each individual hardstand, further risk assessment

## Role of Public Agencies

- Set the legal basis for the movement of abnormal loads.
- Safety of other users is paramount
- Logistics, planning and permitting of these large loads
- Public authorities assist with the practicalities
- Specialist companies assist in processing permit applications
- Many logistics companies manage their own permitting requirements

# Escorting Arrangements

## Main Functions of Escort Vehicles

- Provide and supply element of control on road users along particular sections of the route.
- Provide an element of warning and information to other road users about the proximity of the convoy.
- Assess and warn of potential hazards.

## Advantages

- Provision of essential, immediate data to the abnormal load driver
- Provides 'rear vision' when required and advises on deployment of rear wheel steering mechanisms
- Assisting traffic control and management
- Provide assistance in the event of an emergency

## Escort Vehicles

- Recommended 3 no. escort vehicles with each abnormal load
- Recommended combination of escort vehicles is one vehicle in front, one at rear and one vehicle taking a scouting role.
- May differ when police escort is involved.

# Communication

- Effective Communication is critical.
- Spare radio should be supplied to the police escort.
- Contingency Plan for dead batteries and malfunctioning radios

## Driver Safety & Welfare

- No specific statutory training requirements
- Licence and/or endorsement appropriate to the weight and configuration of the vehicle being driven and equipment being loaded/unloaded.
- Escort vehicle drivers should be fully licensed with appropriate experience and a drivers licence.
- A log of hours worked should be kept and maintained
- Seatbelts must be worn at all times by all drivers.
- Drivers must never be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- It is also not permitted to carry alcohol or illegal drugs in the vehicle.
- Appropriate accommodation must be provided to all drivers.

## **Incident & Incident Management.**

- Encourage a culture of near miss reporting.
- Prompt reporting of any incident (60 minutes) will ensure appropriate response plan
- Emergency response plan should be in place in the event of a serious incident occurring.
- Specialist advice in load recovery should be utilised where required.

### **Steps in Incident Management**

1. Convoy Pilots and drivers may call emergency services
2. Incident co-ordinator should be mobilised and present at the scene.

## Lessons Learnt

- Drivers moving off the centre of the road.
- Vehicles becoming stuck and drivers not asking for assistance.
- Do we have the correct equipment for the task??





**Thank You**

BY  
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