



## October 13 — Stop When the Load Changes

|                                                                              |                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Hauling steel to job site. Steel vibrating around and straps becoming loose. | Stop and check load as needed and tighten straps. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|

### Learning: A Secure Load Can Become an Unsecure Load

When hauling steel, the load may shift or vibrate as the vehicle travels. In this observation, the steel was vibrating around and the straps were becoming loose. That change in the load condition was recognized and addressed rather than continuing to the job site.

The important lesson is that securing a load is not necessarily a one-time action. Straps that were tight when the load was first secured can loosen as the load moves. When that happens, the right response is to stop, check the load, and make the necessary adjustments before continuing.

Taking a few minutes to retighten the straps helps keep the steel controlled during the remainder of the trip and prevents a changing load from becoming a bigger problem.

Good load securement means paying attention to the load throughout the haul, not just when the straps are first installed.

### Hazards

- Steel shifting or moving during transport
- Straps becoming loose
- Load movement caused by vibration
- Inadequate load securement
- Steel shifting or falling from the load

### Words of Wisdom

A load that was secure when you started may not stay that way. When the load changes, stop and make it secure again before you move.

### Pause and Think

- Did the load remain in the same position after we started moving?
- Are the straps still tight and properly securing the steel?
- What signs would tell me that the load is beginning to shift?
- If I notice a strap becoming loose, am I willing to stop and correct it?
- Before continuing, have I confirmed the load is secure?

### Closing Thought

Don't wait until a load becomes a problem. If you see the steel moving or the straps loosening, stop and correct it.