

## PUBLIC SAFETY TEAM

### 2-POST TYRE FITTERS CASE STUDY

The use of two post vehicle lifts by tyre fitting businesses has been identified as a national priority as vehicles have fallen from raised lifts, mostly resulting in vehicle damage, but some involving serious injuries and at least two fatalities in the UK in last 5 years.



A number of factors can undermine the safety and integrity of vehicle lifts and these include, poor design, manufacture, installation, use and maintenance. In addition the design of the telescopic arms causes concerns if they are not used as intended.

During their visits officers from the Public Safety team inspected premises focusing on such equipment but also looking at other high risk activities/equipment such as welding using oxy-acetylene equipment.

#### Compliance Operation

Inspections were coordinated across Leicestershire and Rutland using a generic officer aide memoire. Officers were given training provided by Garage Equipment Association before inspections were carried out.

[These](#) inspections were carried out between December 2014 and January 2015. 11 premises where these type of lifts were being operated were inspected by officers.

#### Inspection Findings

In one premises, an extremely dangerous practice of using pieces of wood on the arm locking mechanism to support the vehicles they were lifting was found. This practice was immediately prohibited. A common theme in most premises was the lack of suitable documentation to demonstrate that lifting equipment was safe to use. A similar finding was that approximately half of the businesses could not demonstrate their compressors were maintained in the safe way. The oxy-acetylene equipment and ladders were generally found to be ~~safe~~ in a safe condition.

#### Benefits of the Project

- As a result of this project, premises in Leicester are now compliant and two post lifts are now being used safely.

- Employees and customers are not at risk from serious/life-changing injuries at these premises.
- Establishment of good working relationships between Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Health and Safety Best Practice Group.

### Contact

If you require any further details about the points raised in this case study, please contact:

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