

1ST November 2000

RISK ASSESSMENT OF THE
"ELECTRODRIVE TUGLET"
MOTORISED TOWING UNIT

The Electrodrive Motorised towing unit "The Tuglet" has been assessed for potential hazards which may arise from use of the vehicle whilst moving customer's Trolleys. Whilst the manufacturer, Electrodrive, has limited control on vehicle use, there are a number of hazards that have been identified as a result of this risk assessment. These are detailed on the attached "Risk Assessment & Control" document and should be used as a basis for operator training and developing safety procedures by the customer, before releasing the vehicle for general use.

It is the recommendation of the manufacturer that only authorised personnel should use the vehicle. The vehicle should always be disabled while unattended by removing the key from the key switch. An unattended vehicle with the key in place is an open invitation for unauthorised use.

As far as possible, safeguards have been put in place to ensure that the vehicle will be operated with adequate warning to pedestrians, through operator initiated audible signals. However, the ultimate responsibility for safe operation lies with the operator, who should always be a fully trained, and authorised person.

Hazard Identification Risk Assessment and Control Electrodrive Tuglet

1.0 Operator visibility:

The Customers trolley has the potential to obscure visibility when driving.

Risk assessment:

- Slight as the machine is traveling slowly at walking pace.

Control measures:

- Provide a dead man speed control throttle lever that will only operate when pressed. The release of the lever will halt the movement of the unit.
- Instruct the operator to lead the Tuglet and trolley rather than pushing the trolley. This will ensure that the operator has unobstructed forward vision, and in addition the trolley will be easier to steer.

2.0 Hitching the Tuglet to the Trolley:

The Tuglet is provided with either an oversized hitching clamp to clamp around the vertical supports of the trolley structure, or a simple tow bar with pin. Either system will secure the Tuglet firmly to the trolley. Note the trolley will need to be equipped with two remote fixed castors and two adjacent swivel castors for controlled steering..

Risk assessment:

- Low if the Trolleys are towed.
- High if trolleys are pushed at high speed .

Control Measures:

- Provide reduce speed of operation when moving in the push direction.
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3.0 Safety risks for the operator:

Risk assessment:

- Negligible if the operator is properly trained and is familiar with the safety equipment supplied.

Control measures:

- Provide training and advice in the responsible operation of the Tuglet and the safe hitching of the Tuglet to the trolley.
- Provide training to ensure the operator is familiar with all safety devices and is well versed in the Tuglet operating procedures as set out on page three of the Tuglet operating manual.