



COVID-19 outbreak: Vehicle Fleet Accumulation Assessment & Controls

Risk Bulletin

The following provides general best practice advice with respect to control measures and risk mitigation during the present Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

This applies where not in conflict with current government advice.

At certain times of the year, and especially at the present time during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is likely to be a scenario where all, or the majority of vehicles in your fleet, are stored together at any one location.

This will significantly increase the total value of a multi-vehicle accumulation loss.

This document provides information designed to assist you in assessing your exposures and recommended best practice controls to mitigate this risk.

Location of your Premises

Ensure physical/perimeter security arrangements are adequate and complete:

- Electronic systems such as CCTV systems and intruder alarms to provide coverage over the site and where there is no physical presence these should be remotely monitored systems
- Security lighting to provide clear visibility throughout the site
- Manned security is to be deployed where other measures are not in place or considered inadequate. Where permanent manned guards or security patrols are engaged they should be SIA accredited
www.sia.homeoffice.gov.uk

Availability of Water for Fire Fighting Purposes

- Review the adequacy of firefighting water supplies and contact the Fire service for advice where vehicle accumulations are significant or less-accessible / remote locations are being used

Buildings and the Environment

- Avoid parking vehicles close to buildings as this presents a threat to and from the buildings and vehicles
- Where practicable avoid parking vehicles within 10 metres of any buildings and look for a much wider gap (20 metres +)
- Try and avoid parking vehicles on or near grass (or other areas with vegetation) during hot weather to minimise the potential for fire spread

Storm/Flood

Assess storm and flood vulnerability. For this you should consider the following:

- The proximity of your premises/vehicles to any open water, especially large/ fast flowing rivers or any other flowing water courses
- Whether or not your premises are above or below the water level of the nearby water courses
- Previous experience of flooding suffered by yourself or your neighbours
- The adequacy of on-site drainage
- The construction of the surface which vehicles are parked on as unprepared grass or mud when wet could mean vehicles get stuck or are difficult to move

Sign up for flood warnings from the Government

www.flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk

Formalise a flood plan to manage your storm exposures.

Where significant exposure is identified, then mitigation measures should be discussed with your insurance risk management contact, or vehicles relocated.

Vehicle Parking

- Plan parking arrangements with special consideration to high value or 'theft attractive' vehicles as well as significant accumulation of £250,000+
- Aim for a 20 metre + clearance between blocks of vehicles with a maximum value of £250,000 in each block and ensure that vehicles are not stored within 10 metres (minimum) of any buildings



Vehicle Keys

- Secure keys within a good quality locked safe in an alarm protected area
- Strictly control access whilst ensuring you will need to be able to safely access the keys in an emergency

Fuel and Battery Charging

- Keep fuel levels within vehicles to a minimum
- Reduce bulk fuel supplies on site to a minimum during prolonged periods of inactivity
- Isolate any electric charging points and do not charge vehicles during storage periods

Emergency Plan

- Complete a full risk assessment
- Devise a formal emergency response plan. This should be completed by competent and experienced personnel, dated and subject to on-going review
- Draw up a list of competent personnel (with contact details) who will be able to assist you to move vehicles and as part of your emergency plan

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