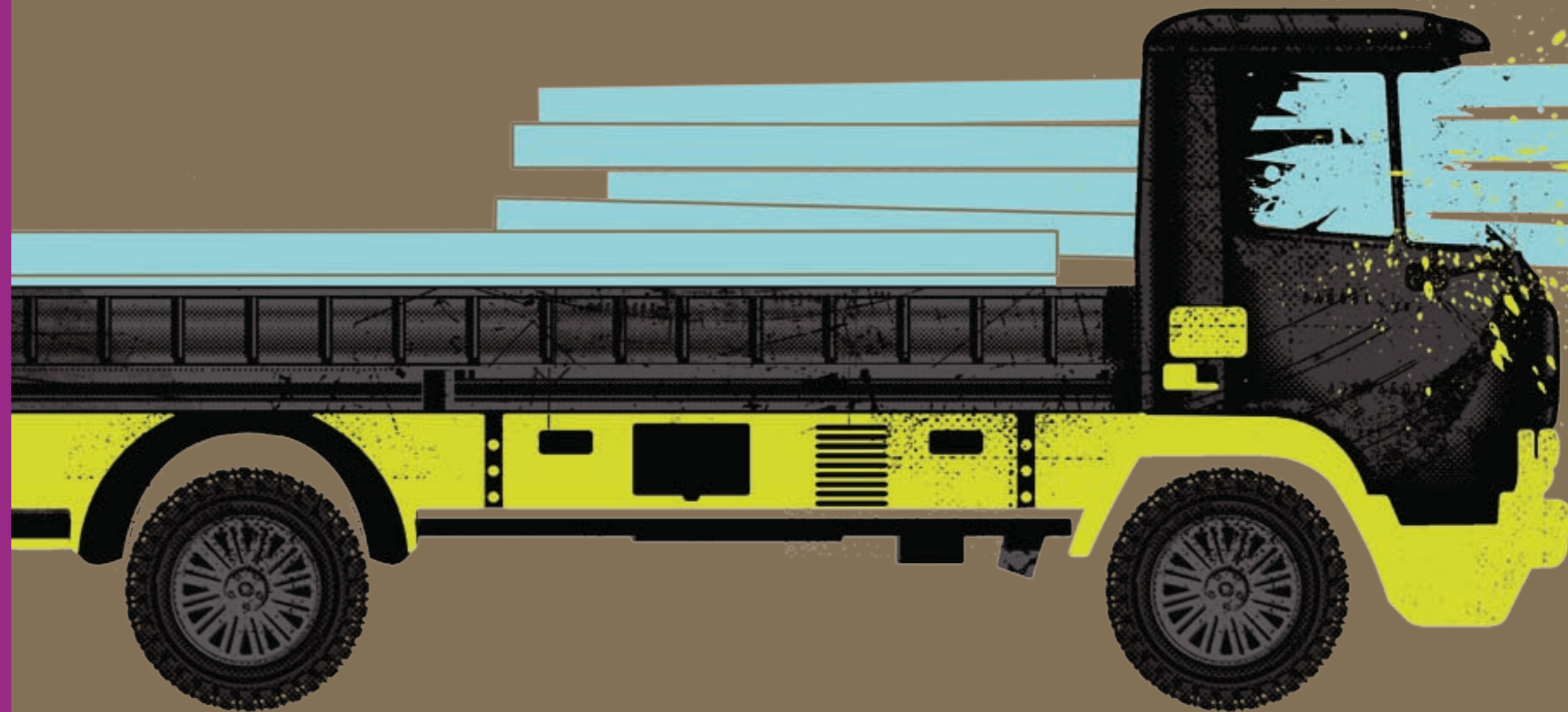
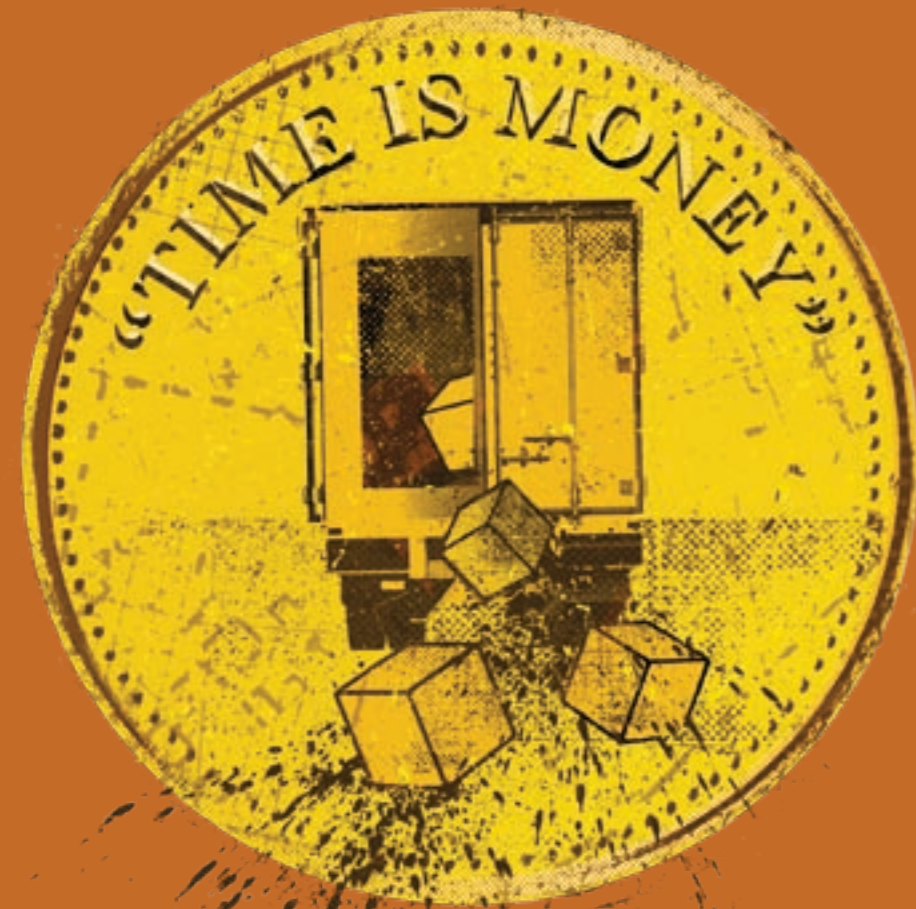


"LEAVE IT, YOU'RE LATE"

"THE  
WEIGHT  
WILL HOLD  
IT"





**Unsafe loads can lead to injury or death.  
They can also cost you millions in damaged  
goods and lost time.**

# There is no excuse for unsafe loads.

Loading and unloading accidents injure over 1,200 people a year, so whatever vehicles you use or loads you carry, please visit [hse.gov.uk/loadsafty](http://hse.gov.uk/loadsafty) or call 0845 345 0055 for simple, practical advice on protecting your staff and safeguarding your reputation.

## Planning.

A little time spent thinking about your loading can help prevent all the problems a poorly planned and unsafe load can cause. To make sure your loading goes well:

- Have the correct equipment on your premises to load vehicles safely
- Prepare a loading plan for each journey – consider multi-drop loads, obtain relevant information about each delivery site, including unloading equipment and facilities

## Loading.

Restraining loads safely is crucial in preventing accidents in transit and during unloading. Remember:

- Always load to the headboard. If the load cannot be loaded to the headboard, use blockage or dunnage to fill the gap
- Loads should not move independent of the trailer
- Curtains should not be used to secure a load. Even if the load doesn't fall off in transit, it could fall when the curtain is opened
- Lashings should not be secured to rope hooks
- Webbing straps should be regularly checked for damage and wear and tear

## Transit.

Between loading and unloading is a critical period in the safe transportation of any load.

- If a load does shift, it is vital that the driver feels under no pressure to continue
- They should contact their depot for advice/assistance before securing the load, if continuing with their journey

## Unloading.

Correctly restraining loads before the start of any journey is the best way to minimise the risks of falls and crush injuries during unloading. You should also:

- Wherever possible, avoid working at height to prevent falls
- If a load has shifted, plan the safest way to unload the vehicle



For lots more practical advice on vehicle safety at work visit [hse.gov.uk/loadsafty](http://hse.gov.uk/loadsafty) or call 0845 345 0055