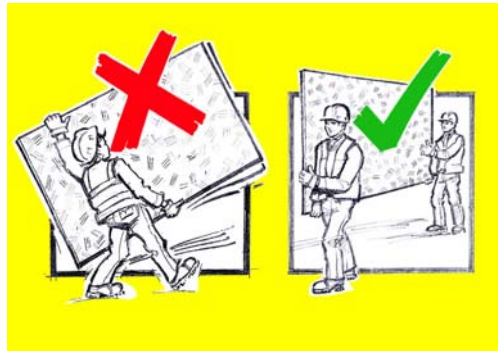


Trojan Horse Message Information Sheet

This sheet provides practical information on the successful implementation of the following Trojan Horse Message:

HANDLING PLASTERBOARD AND CHIPBOARD



Trojan Horse messages are eye-catching pictures placed on construction products and equipment, showing how to perform tasks safely. All messages are subject to a rigorous peer review process.

1 Health and Safety Issue

Almost two thirds of back injuries in the construction industry are caused by manual handling. The HSE recommend that injury may result from carrying loads heavier than 25kg. A common cause of back injury is twisting caused by handling panelled products such as plasterboard.

This message shows the correct way of handling panel products. Care should be taken at all times to avoid strain to the handlers. Boards should not be lifted at the short edges or carried horizontally. Boards should be carried on their edges, two persons per board, supporting them on the long edge. In all cases it is necessary to ensure handling equipment is of adequate capacity and that the operatives are advised of handling procedures and safety clothing.

Lifting aids such as panel trolleys (which should be pushed not pulled), board clamps, or wheeled 'bogies' help reduce handling where other mechanical means cannot be used. Boards can be offered up for fixing using a mechanical panel lifter.

An alternative way to avoid injury is to reduce the board width which decreases the weight and the narrower profile reduces the stretching, stooping and twisting, and allows the weight to be carried closer to the body.

Further information:

Gypsum Products Development Association
(www.gpda.com)

2 Application of Message

This message is applicable to any panel building product including plasterboard and chipboard.

3 Message Format

Messages should be printed on A5 size laminated synthetic labels with a permanent adhesive to ensure adequate adhesion to the building material.

Trojan Horse



HEALTH AND SAFETY
MESSAGES AT WORK

www.trojan-horse.org

The Trojan Horse messaging technique has been developed by:

SCI
Silwood Park
Ascot
Berkshire
SL5 7QN

