

# FLATTENED CARS CONTAINMENT GUIDELINES

## Scope and Purpose:

This document outline suggested practices and procedures for use by flatteners in the preparation, loading and transport of flattened vehicles to address the likelihood of loose parts from the flattened vehicles falling from the transport vehicle.

Users of this document should be aware that, by its general nature, this document may not address specific circumstance present at the flattener's facility. The information provided herein is not intended to be a substitute or mandate for flatteners currently following alternative practices that are equally effective in addressing the likelihood of loose parts falling from the transport vehicle.

## Definitions:

Vehicle Flattening: A process by which a vehicle's volume is reduced by a crushing process.

Crushing Process: The means for reducing the physical dimensions of a vehicle by applying force against one or more sides of the vehicle. Examples by which force can be applied include, but are not limited to, a hydraulic press, powered industrial equipment, or controlled dropping of a weight onto the vehicle.

Industrial Equipment: Equipment generally used to perform other industrial functions but which can also be used to apply a crushing force to vehicles. Examples include, but are not limited to front-end loader, forklift, or a magnet or shear that is attached to a crane or hydraulic excavator.

Flattener: The individual or company that flattens vehicles for the purpose of preparing them for transport and/or loads flattened vehicles onto transport vehicle.

## Recommendations:

- I. Before transport, the flattener should inspect the flattened vehicles for the following:

### Windows

If a window or windshield is in place yet it is not reasonably intact or, in total or in part, is not secured from dislodging, then remove or break the glass. If the vehicle is not to be the top vehicle in a loaded stack then place the glass inside either the passenger compartment or the trunk. Glass should be removed from any vehicle that is to be the top vehicle in a loaded stack.

### Doors

If any of the vehicle's doors have not been secured by the flattening process, will not be braced against a containment barrier on the transport vehicle, or will not be held in place by adequate securement, either:

- Fasten hood or hatch cover shut using the trunk hood or hatch cover's locking device, or
- Remove the trunk hood or hatch cover.

### Hood

If the vehicle's engine compartment hood has not been secured by the flattening process, will not be braced on or under another flattened vehicle on the transport vehicle or will not be held in place by adequate securement:

- Fasten hood shut using the hood's locking device, or
- Remove the hood

### Trunk

If the vehicle's trunk hood or hatch cover has not been secured by the flattening process, will not be braced or placed under another vehicle on the transport vehicle or will not be held in place by adequate securement:

- Fasten hood or hatch cover shut using the trunk hood or hatch cover's locking device, or
- Remove the trunk hood or hatch cover

### Engine Compartment

If the vehicle's engine compartment hood is removed and the engine compartment will not be covered by another flattened vehicle, remove or secure loose material in the engine that may fall off during transport.

### Drive Train

If the vehicle's drive train will not be covered by another flattened vehicle on the transport vehicle or will not be held in place by adequate securement, remove loose materials from the drive train that may fall off during transport.

### Wheel Assembly

If any of the vehicle's wheel assemblies will not be braced against a containment barrier on the transport vehicle, inspect that assembly for loose or hanging components. These components can include, but are not limited to, tires, hubcaps, brake drums, calipers, rotors, brake shoes and brake pads. If any component is loose, either:

- Remove it or
- Fasten it to the wheel assembly

### Body

If one or more of the vehicle's exterior sides will not be braced against a containment barrier, inspect those sides for loose or hanging components. These components can include, but are not limited to, fenders, molding, grill, lights, mirrors, gas cap covers, or handles. Remove any component that is loose and that will not be restrained by adequate securement.

## II. Other Material

Other material should be either:

1. Processed or recycled separately from the flattened vehicle from which it was removed, or
2. The material should be placed into a vehicle or between vehicles such that:
  - The flattening process will secure the material inside the flattened vehicle or bundle of flattened vehicles, or
  - The vehicle containing the other material will be securely covered by another flattened vehicle on the transport vehicle, or
  - Adequate securement will ensure that material does not dislodge.

### III. Loading Process

Before loading flattened vehicles onto a transport vehicle, the flattener should remove all loose material from the transport vehicle that could fall off during transport.

During loading and securement of flattened vehicles onto a transport vehicle, the flattener should inspect the flattened vehicles to ensure that no material has become dislodged such that the material could fall from the transport vehicle. If such occurs, the flattener should remove such loose material from the flattened vehicles.

Prior to transport, the flattener should check the transport vehicle for loose material that may have fallen onto the bed of the transport vehicle. This loose material should be removed from the bed of the transport vehicle.