

Licensing of General Waste Collectors (GWCs) and its Regulations and Licensing Conditions

Ms Soh Jing Yi, Manager

Waste Collection Department – GWC Management & Enforcement

Thursday, 25 November 2021

Agenda

- 1 Background of GWC Licence
- 2 GWC Regulations and Licensing Conditions
- 3 Code of Practice for licensed GWCs

1

Background of GWC Licence

Environmental Public Health (General Waste Collection) Regulations

- Licensing introduced in 1989
 - Regulate the waste collection industry
 - Only licensed general waste collectors (GWCs) are allowed to collect and transport refuse as a business
 - Waste generators must engage licensed GWCs
 - About 358 licensed general waste collectors as of Oct 2021

- 4 Classes of licence: Class A, B, B.1 and C

GWC Licence – Class A

Class of licence	Type of Waste	Type of vehicle/equipment
A	<p><u>Type A</u></p> <p>Inorganic waste (e.g construction and renovation debris, tree trunks and branches, discarded furniture, electrical appliances, wooden crates, pallets and other bulky items destined for disposal); and</p> <p>Recyclable Waste (excluding food waste).</p>	<p>Roll-on/Roll-off container and prime movers (hook-lift), lorries with crane, pick-ups, lorries with tipper, or other approved vehicles.</p> <p>Waste must be properly covered.</p>



Hook-lift



Open Top Container (OTC)



Cover
for OTC

GWC Licence – Class B

Class of licence	Type of Waste	Type of vehicle/equipment
B	<u>Type B</u> Organic waste and other putrefiable waste from domestic, trade and industrial premises, markets and food centres (excluding used cooking oil).	Roll-on/Roll-off compactors and prime movers; Refuse Compaction Vehicles (Rear-End Loader).



Hook-lift



Compactors



Rear End Loader (REL)

GWC Licence – Class B.1

Class of licence	Type of Waste	Type of vehicle/equipment
B.1	<u>Type B.1</u> Used Cooking Oil from eateries, markets and food centres, food manufacturers and distributors	Open lorries with intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) secured to the body of the transporting vehicle, or other approved equipment or vehicles.



GWC Licence – Class C

Class of licence	Type of Waste	Type of vehicle/equipment
C	<u>Type C</u> Sludge from water treatment plants, grease interceptors, water-seal latrines, sewage treatment plants, septic tanks or other types of sewerage systems; Waste from sanitary conveniences from ships and aircraft.	Trucks with vacuum tanks or other approved vehicles.



Vacuum Tanker

2

GWC Regulations and Licensing Conditions

Requirement for Hook-lift, OTC & Compactor/ Containers Certification

- All hook-lift mounted trucks, OTCs, compactors/containers used for waste collection are to be inspected and certified by accredited Inspection Bodies (IBs).
- Inspection certificate is valid for one year.
- Regular maintenance/checks shall also be carried out by the company throughout the inspection period to ensure that the equipment is fit for use.



Hook-lift



OTC



Compactors

Requirement for Rear-End Loaders

- All Rear-End Loaders (RELs) are required to be in conformity with SS EN 1501 or SS649 standards.
- These standards provide requirements and specifications for RELs in terms of hygiene, safety, odour and noise, including the maintainability of other associated equipment.
 - ❑ SS 649 complements the SS EN 1501 series of standards and covers all RELs which are unable to comply with SS EN 1501 standards in full, due to site constraint(s) or design.
- For example: the packing mechanism/ compaction modes shall be in semi-auto or manual modes only.

Requirement for transportation of refuse

- Tippers, open lorries and bins shall not be overly filled with refuse and refuse shall be securely covered, especially during transportation as this could pose potential safety hazards to other road users.
- OTC should only be filled up to their brim, which makes it easier for the OTCs to be securely covered during transportation.



This is the **CORRECT** way



This is the **NOT ALLOWED**

Requirement on installation of reversing camera or 360 degree camera system

- Hook-lift trucks must be fitted with a reversing camera, with live feed into driver's cabin
- Rear end loaders (RELs) must be fitted with a 360° camera system to enable the drivers to have a complete real time view of the area surrounding the RELs from the driver's cabin.
- Both requirements are in place to ensure that drivers can be fully aware of their surroundings, especially the rear of the vehicle, when they are reversing/ performing waste collection operations.

Reversing camera:



In-vehicle monitor screen:



Requirement on Training for Drivers and Crew

- Drivers and crew shall be trained and certified under the Singapore Workforce Skills Qualifications (“WSQ”) framework for the Waste Management Industry. This allows them to be conversant in the following:
 - ❑ Requirements of the Environmental Public Health Act, GWC Regulations and GWC Conditions of Licence;
 - ❑ Operate waste collection vehicle(s) and equipment;
 - ❑ Identify different types of waste: incinerable, non-incinerable and recyclable waste;
 - ❑ Conduct waste collection safely
 - ❑ Types of waste carried on each vehicle trip and the appropriate disposal facilities to be sent to; and
 - ❑ Procedures to be taken in the event of a spillage incident.
- This ensures drivers and crew are adequately trained/ informed of the safety aspects to take note of when performing waste collection activities in their job.

EPH (GWC) Regulation 14 - Cleansing and maintenance of vehicles and equipment

- A licensee shall ensure that his vehicles and equipment used for the collection of general waste are cleansed at the end of each work shift and maintained in good working condition.
- Regular maintenance/ service checks should be conducted to detect faults/ abnormalities early and perform prompt rectification works

EPH (GWC) Regulation 17 - Disposal of incinerable, non-incinerable and recyclable waste

- Licensees are required to transport different waste types to the appropriate facilities for disposal/ recycling.
 - ❑ Incinerable waste: transported to a refuse incineration plant (i.e. IPs)
 - ❑ Non-incinerable waste: transported to Tuas Marine Transfer Station/ Semakau Landfill
 - ❑ Recyclable waste: transported to a licensed General Waste Disposal Facility (GWDF)
- Licensees are also required to re-organise their waste collection trip and/or take additional measures to segregate the waste types such that they can be sent to the appropriate facilities (i.e. eliminating mixed waste).

3

Code of Practice for licensed GWCs

Working with General Waste Generators

- To facilitate waste collection operations, GWCs are to inform the client/ general waste generators (e.g. commercial and trade premises, food establishments, industrial premises, households) to adhere with certain guidelines on good waste disposal habits and practices to maintain cleanliness of bin centres.
- On waste segregation/ disposal:
 - ❑ Actively segregate waste at source into recyclables and non-recyclables. Recyclables should be kept dry and free from food and liquids in recycling receptacles
 - ❑ Each category of waste must be contained in proper and identifiable receptacles such as bins, containers or bags after segregation. The waste must be placed and stored in such a manner that they are protected from rain and rummaging by vermin and other animals
 - ❑ All waste containing dangerous substances must be contained and stored separately from other waste

Working with General Waste Generators

➤ On cleanliness:

- ☐ Bagged waste must be contained in proper bins fitted with covers. Bins must be kept within a proper bin centre or any other designated space within the premise at all times, except when the waste collection vehicle is collecting the waste at your premise
- ☐ Bagged waste must not be placed outside the premise overnight and should only be brought out from the premise just before the scheduled collection
- ☐ Bins (especially bins used to contain organic waste) should be washed regularly to prevent smell nuisance and pest/ rodent breeding. The bin centre/ designated space should also be cleaned regularly.

➤ On bulky waste:

- ☐ Bulky waste (larger than 0.6m in length or width) should not be thrown into bins or compactor/ dust drum container
- ☐ They should either be broken down into smaller parts, or to be sent to a licensed facility for recycling

Our Environment

Safeguard • Nurture • Cherish