



Form Ref: HSI-10

### Independent Health & Safety Inspection - Blue Star Item

Version: 2.0 Jun 2015



#### Awarded for Exceptional Performance or New Initiative not widely used on other sites

Project	Principal Contractor (PC)	Date of Inspection
M4 SMP	BBV-JV	
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# Description of Blue Star Item

Saunders Recovery & BBV, supported by Highways England HETO's have successfully trialled and implemented a new recovery system called VDZ System.

With modern trucks encompassing new technology within design and development for greater payloads, the complex design and manufacture of these trucks requires a new approach for the recovery and transportation should the vehicle require towing.

Modern vehicle manufacturers are now putting greater emphasis on how and where a vehicle should be lifted for recovery, as serious damage could result in incorrect lifting or towing, therefore the new VDZ system utilises the manufactures inbuilt towing and lifting points, which as per manufacturers specification identifies the correct towing connections to the vehicle and procedures.

Operator safety, the VDZ system alleviates the need for recovery drivers to make a pre lift and stand the casualty vehicle on stands, eliminates the need for the recovery operator to lay under the casualty vehicle to connect the recovery vehicle, removes the need for chains and tensioners which can work loose allowing the vehicle to move whilst towing, thus giving the recovery operator a safer working environment.

The VDZ system allows the vehicle being recovered to be lifted from the vehicle manufacturers correct recovery and towing points, which also moves the point of lifting substantially forward giving less weight on the recovery vehicle cross head allowing the under lift boom to be fully retracted when towing, which in turn, reduces the weight transferred through to the recovery vehicle. The VDZ system assists the operator keeping their recovery vehicles legal on rear axle weights, gives better control stopping the "see-saw" and high rear axle recovery vehicle loading effect currently experienced lifting under the front axle, the system also eliminates under bumper, or radiator damage when negotiating severe road undulations.

An on-project trial commenced during May 2019 following familiarisation training VDZ System was arranged and delivered by the supplier (Rydam Universal) on 1st May 2019 to the Saunders Recovery operatives on the operation and capabilities of the system at 3c compound. (See attached VDZ System Trial presentation document).

Information obtained from BBV M4 Recovery Stats May/June/July 2019 showed a 67% decrease on average in the time the recovery operators were exposed to the hazard of working next to live lanes during recovery operations.





Benefits of Blue Star Item	<ul> <li>Reduces the risk to recovery drivers working under vehicles.</li> <li>Reduced exposure time to the operators working next to live traffic.</li> <li>Improved response time from recovery vehicle, reduces the risk of further damage to the casualty vehicle.</li> <li>Better control of the casualty vehicle.</li> <li>When recovering vehicles with livestock, they can now stay in the transporter, reducing the risk of transferring animals, animals are not stressed by the process of transferring them and reduces the risk to HETO's as there should be no need to hold traffic for livestock is transfer. Recovery time is quicker.</li> <li>Recovery of car transporters would be safer due to the reduced height which reduces the risk of striking overhead structures. When using an under lift straight bar this increases the height of the transporter.</li> <li>The VDZ system gives the recovery operator full control of the vehicle and eliminates the requirement for the stranded drive having to steer their own vehicle.</li> </ul>
Details and Cost of any Specific Product	<ul> <li>3 sets complete kit inc new generation Scania S series with front bolt in brackets, to include lifting brackets for Boniface "T" bars</li> <li>1 set complete kit inc new generation Scania S series with front bolt in brackets, to include high lift rotator 300mm lifting brackets for Boniface "T" bars</li> <li>4 sets of VDZ bolt in storage racks</li> <li>4 safety strap systems</li> <li>Total special price as agreed: £30,340</li> </ul>





## Photograph









### Photograph



Note: Photos taken during original trial (May 2019) pre-covid 19 restrictions.