Description

Murphy worked with Crossrail and the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) to develop a Cyclist Safety System that would reduce the risks cyclists are exposed to when cycling in close proximity to Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV). The solution focused on providing instant information to the driver and an immediate warning to alert the cyclist of the vehicle’s intended manoeuvre.

Comprising of Sidescan detection sensors and cameras linked to a warning unit, the Cyclist Safety System alerts cyclists or pedestrians when the near side indicator is activated and the vehicle is preparing to make a left-hand turn. A display in the cab also signals the driver to warn them that a cyclist or pedestrian is within 1.5m on their near left side.

In addition to the Sidescan unit and cameras, Murphy has added side guardrails to the HGV fleet to provide further protection to cyclists and avoid entrapment issues with the HGV.

All Murphy HGVs have been fitted with a Sidescan detection, cameras and warning system.
The Benefits
- Cycling is currently enjoying a revival, with the number of cyclists on the roads increasing year-on-year.

- In 2013, there were 14 cycling fatalities in London, nine of which involved HGVs, including skip or tipper trucks.

- This situation highlights the urgent need for the construction industry to take further measures to reduce the dangers posed to cyclists by HGVs in London and elsewhere.

- The Cyclist Safety System ensures safer working practices and reduces the risks presented by cycling and driving in dynamic urban areas.

Application
The Cyclist Safety System was launched in Murphy’s main depot in London in early 2013. All of Murphy’s 120 HGVs have now been fitted with the system.

The complete solution costs £1,000 per HGV to supply and install. This cost includes both the Sidescan unit, cameras and the protection guard rails.

The innovation also resulted in Murphy’s HGV operations exceeding the safety standards required by clients, reflecting Murphy values of never harming people, the environment or communities.

The Cyclist Safety System was amongst a number of fleet innovations introduced by Murphy which saw the company achieve a FORS Gold Stamp Accreditation in 2013.

End User Feedback
“Our drivers have responded extremely positively to the new device. Feedback received is that they feel much safer and better equipped than they used to be.” – Brendan Sugrue, Murphy Plant & Transport Manager

The innovation has also received praise from the National Cycling Charity and BBC Midlands when it was demonstrated at the Exchanging Places event at the NEC in Birmingham.

Hochtief Murphy Joint Venture attending the Exchanging Places cycle safety event at the NEC

Market Potential
The cycle protection safety system can be installed on other large vehicles such as skip lorries, tractor units and plant carriers/hiabs.

Demonstration of the Cycle Safety System at the Exchanging Places cycle safety event at the NEC

Learn More
For more information, please contact Murphy Marketing & Communications Department at communications@murphygroup.co.uk

This is a brief description of the solution as we have applied it and should not be taken as exact. Its application must take into account the local environment and specific project requirements.