Dear Sir/Madam,

**German load restraint laws**

We would like to point out that for every journey the load restraint regulations pursuant to § 22 of the StVO [German Road Traffic Act] must be complied with. The load must be stowed and secured in such a way that even during full braking or a sudden evasive manoeuvre it cannot slip, topple, roll to and fro or fall down.

The parties responsible include the driver, the transport contractor, the motor vehicle owner as well as the consignor and the shipper.

*It is essential that load restraint obligations be fulfilled* and therefore the goods must be adequately secured in accordance with § 22 StVO [German Road Traffic Act].

**Otherwise we cannot clear the load.**

Note:
The documents for download can also be found at www.jetter.de; then under Quicklinks_Ladungssicherung.

Best Regards

Jetter AG
Legal basis - load restraint (with the example of road transport in Germany)

In principle, a load must be secured in such a way that in typical road traffic driving conditions, it cannot slip, topple or fall down. In this respect, typical road traffic conditions also include evasive manoeuvres and full braking. Case law imposes load restraint obligations on all participating persons. The legal basis of the load restraint obligations are set down in / relate to:

- Straßenverkehrsordnung (StVO) [Road Traffic Act]

The parties responsible include the driver, the transport contractor, the motor vehicle owner as well as the consignor and the shipper. It is essential that load restraint obligations be fulfilled and they thus apply not only for the transport of dangerous goods.

Road traffic law (StVO)

StVO (Straßenverkehrs-Ordnung) [Road Traffic Act]
I. General traffic regulations § 22 Load

(1) The load including load restraint devices and loading equipment must be stowed and secured in such a way that even when full braking or sudden evasion manoeuvres occur, they cannot slip, topple, roll to and fro, fall down or generate avoidable noise. Recognised technical regulations should be complied with while doing this.

(2) Vehicle and load may not together be wider than 2.55 m and not higher than 4 m. Vehicles that are used for agricultural or forestry purposes, when they are loaded with agricultural or forestry products or work devices, may not, including the load, be wider than 3 m. If they are loaded with agricultural or forestry products, they may be higher than 4 m including the load. Refrigeration vehicles may not be wider than 2.6 m.

(3) The load may not protrude forwards more than 2.5 m over the vehicle, for trucks and trailers over the pulling vehicle. In addition, the forward load protrusion may not be more than 50 cm beyond the vehicle, with trucks and trailers 50 cm beyond the pulling vehicle.

(4) Backwards, however, the load may protrude up to 1.5 m, but 3 m when transporting on a route of a distance up to 100 km; routes outside the area of applicability of this regulation are not taken into account. Vehicle or truck and trailer including load may not be longer than 20.75 m. If the outermost end of the load protrudes more than 1 m backwards beyond the vehicle’s reflector, it must be highlighted by at least one bright red flag, not under 30 x 30 cm in size, held apart by a crossbar, an equally large, bright red notice that is hung up crosswise to the direction of movement or a vertically affixed cylindrical body of the same colour and height with a diameter of at least 35 cm. The restraint device may not be installed more than 1.5 m above the road. If necessary (§ 17 sub-section 1), at least one lamp with a red light should be attached at the same position, also a red reflector not higher than 90 cm.

(5) If the load protrudes at the side by more than 40 cm beyond the vehicle lights, in motor vehicles beyond the furthest edge of the light-emitting surfaces of the front position lights or tail lights, if necessary (§ 17 sub-section 1), it should be highlighted forwards at the side at most 40 cm from its edge and at most 1.5 m above the road, forwards with a white light and backwards with a red light. Individual rods or poles, horizontal plates and other objects that are difficult to recognize may not protrude from the sides.