

pulling, straightening & alignment

Straight Talking





Tri-Sphere's Globaljig training specialist Matt Lomas highlights some common pulling errors

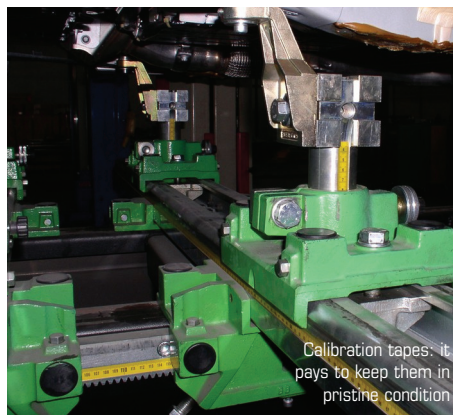
It's a mistake repeated in many bodyshops every day, according to Matt, the safety cables on the pulling systems are either not being used or are completely absent. "It's a strange thing to overlook because it's a basic accident prevention measure", says Matt Lomas.

Matt spends a lot of time in bodyshops. It's his role to provide jig training on behalf of the sole UK importer of Globaljig Pulling and Measuring Systems, Tri-Sphere. That means initial jig training on installation, training sessions for PAS 125 or Quality Standard certification and refresher sessions for existing Globaljig users.

Common errors

Four operating errors frequently affect quality and productivity in the bodyshop. They relate to:

-  Basic principles of the universal bracket system
-  The premature removal of damaged parts
-  Damaged tapes left unrepaired on the measuring systems
-  Excessive use of brackets on the jig



"Let's deal with the easy ones first. Users often assume that because a bracket is available, it must be secured to the vehicle, when in practice it's the extent of the damage that must dictate the number and location of brackets employed. Securing brackets unnecessarily is unproductive", says Matt.

Damaged tapes

In a business where accuracy is essential and safety margins are critical, damaged tapes are a built-in error. "The panel beater is actually relying on guesswork and the bodyshop manager may remain unaware about the issue for quite some time. Apart from the fact that there is a risk to the credibility of the

bodyshop and a threat to its livelihood, there is an unnecessary risk to the safety of the driver and other road users. Always change the tape at the first sign of wear. Sometimes, a front or rear end collision appears so slight that replacement of the damaged panel is all that's required. Beware of removing the damaged panel too soon.

"Often, the first time the panel beater becomes aware that the damage is deeper than first thought is when the replacement panel is offered up. The securing points don't match, so it can't be fitted. What's worse, there is nothing to pull. Parts need to be welded back in order to make the repair, with all the consequences of lost time and effort."

System advantages

The Globaljig System is a progressive anchoring system. Any undamaged data points are secured. The Globaljig only pulls those that are out of alignment and these are secured as they are aligned. Unlike a sill-based system, there are no pointers to re-set.

More information?

To find out more about Tri-Sphere systems and for further training advice, circle readerlink 042

