Why low bridge warnings matter

Every bridge strike is avoidable

Bridge strikes continue to disrupt the UK's road network every single day. For HGV and LGV drivers, a bridge strike can mean more than a damaged vehicle; insurance claims, disruption to rail and road services, damage to reputation, and the risk of injury to pedestrians on the ground. Stopping one from happening in the first place is the surest way to protect every stakeholder involved at all costs.

Escalating the problem

With more than five strikes occuring in the UK every day, it's predicted that bridge strikes cost between £19m and £26m annually. Protecting your operators, your assets, and your business has never been more pivitol. Spillard's AI system helps mitigate this risk.

Why warnings matter

Most strikes occur due to the driver being unaware of the vehicle's height, the route being unfamiliar, or a momentary distraction. Spillard's AI-powered low bridge warning system provides the extra layer of protection that sat navs and route planning alone cannot guarantee. By warning drivers well before a bridge is reached, they have time to stop safely, choose an alternative route and continue their journey without the risk of an incident.

With Spillard's 30 years of designing and developing systems, the company is continually raising the bar of intelligent systems, developed with the operator at the centre, making their life easier and safer. Data is key when it comes to development, from increasing an operator's field of vision within and around the cab, to human detection systems, to real-time live video telematics that captures everything the operator sees.

Using this captured data and analytics, you as a business can learn about your driver's behaviour, patterns of particular incidents can be analysed and systems can be put in place to eradicate future issues. With AI technology becoming engrained in our working lives, Spillard leads the way in futureproofing an environment that allows for heightened safety for everyone involved.

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SPILLARD
vehicle safety systems

You're in safe hands

Fleet management

Tailored solutions

Video telematics

Safe vehicle compliance

24 hour support

National coverage

1,825

Bridge strikes per year

£13,000

Average cost per bridge strike

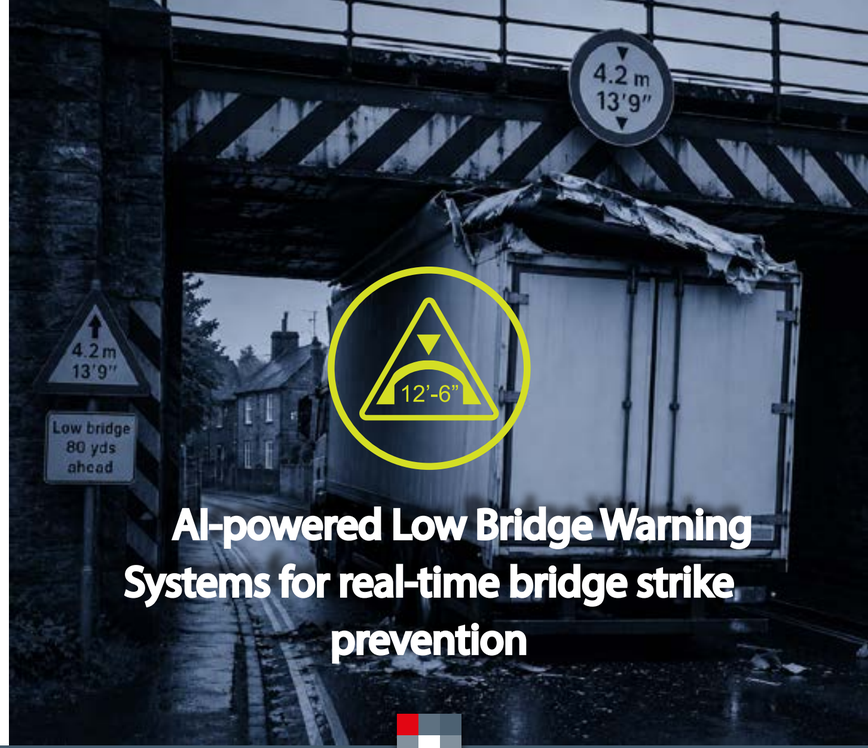
£26m

Cost to the industry per year

Committed to safety

Determining the best solution starts by understanding the problem

spillard.com . info@spillard.com . +44 (0)1902 797930
Spillard Safety Systems Ltd, Solutions House, Deepmore Close, Four Ashes, Wolverhampton, WV10 7DB



AI-powered Low Bridge Warning Systems for real-time bridge strike prevention

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Low Bridge Warning

Solving a persistent industry problem

Beyond costs, individual bridge strike incidents can trigger hours of network disruption and prove a significant safety risk to road and rail users. Traditional mitigation such as static signage, generic GPS alerts and cab stickers have helped, but they leave critical gaps. Many strikes arise when drivers don't know current vehicle height (especially when swapping trailers) or when map-only systems generate irrelevant warnings that get ignored.

Spillard Low Bridge Warning combines AI vision, vehicle-specific height intelligence, driver-centric alerts, and enterprise video telematics to prevent collisions and build a continuous improvement loop. This includes visual understanding of the road ahead, accurate vehicle height on every journey, clear, early, spoken prompts and operational intelligence via Spillard Live.

Spillard Live video telematics

Software that scans, detects, alerts and reports live data

Video Telematics

Secure UK

Digital Video Recording

Trend Analysis

Cloud

Spillard Live is a cloud-based platform that captures, processes, and learns from innovative live video telematics. Users are able to monitor their fleet and operators' behaviour, with operator data and vehicle event footage tracked in real-time, so you never miss a thing, ever! As we progress, there are new risks that come to the forefront, so it is up to Spillard to help reduce the number of accidents, both fatal and non-fatal. This system is rich with data and live analytics, giving you control of your fleet's behaviour.

Every low bridge warning is automatically recorded within the Spillard Live platform, creating a complete timeline of each vehicle's journey. Each event is logged with its corresponding severity level (green, amber or red), allowing fleet managers to review where and when warnings occurred.

For high-severity red alerts, the system automatically uploads video footage from the vehicle's cameras, showing the bridge that triggered the warning and the driver's response. This enables managers to confirm whether the driver took the appropriate action. Automated reports can be generated to identify trends across vehicles and drivers, while email notifications ensure designated personnel are alerted immediately to significant warning events, supporting proactive fleet management, driver coaching and incident investigation.

RFID and Keypad Systems

Two simple methods of keeping height information up to date, ensuring drivers receive the correct warning on every low bridge approach

For fleets operating multiple trailers with different heights, the RFID solution provides a fully automatic process. An RFID reader is fitted to the tractor unit, while each trailer is equipped with its own RFID tag containing the trailer's height information. As soon as the truck couples to a trailer, the reader detects the nearest tag and automatically updates the vehicle height in the cab. No manual input is required, reducing the risk of driver error and ensuring the Low Bridge Warning System is always working with the correct vehicle height.

Where the trailer remains the same but the load height changes regularly, a cab-mounted keypad allows the driver to enter the current vehicle height before setting off. This is particularly suited to industries such as plant hire, where different machines can significantly alter the overall vehicle height. Incorporating this into the driver's pre-departure checks ensures the warning system remains accurate throughout the journey.

Innovative, simple, effective technology