

Safety Equipment for Forklifts

Forklift Safety Equipment - In a variety of agricultural, manufacturing and warehouse operations and industries which used powered forklifts or lift trucks often within the workplace. These industrial powered forklifts can be used to be able to lower and raise things along with transfer things which are either stored in pallets or containers to other places on the property or ship merchandise to various places. These industrial equipment help to enhance productivity at the jobsite by reducing the requirement for excessive manual handling of objects by employees. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, there are just about 20,000 severe injuries each and every year in the United States and roughly 100 fatalities due to the result of lift truck incidents.

Each different forklift or lift truck has different load capacities. Where a load is concerned, each model will differ for particular maximum weight and forward center gravity. Injuries for employees often occur from forklift overturn, crushing incidents, collision with pedestrians or falls from the forklift. Operator falls can take place as the worker descends or ascends into the driver cab or becomes ejected from the machine in the event of an incident or a collision. Forklifts could overturn because of having an unequal center of gravity of the load, or from being over-loaded or traveling over an uneven surface that could cause the vehicle to topple over. It is significant for other co-workers to follow strict preventive measures whenever working in close proximity with the lift truck. Without enough safety measures, pedestrian co-workers are at risk from collisions or accidents associated with an unsafe load.

In relation to lift truck operation, training and maintenance, there are strict training and standards to be observed. Like for example, individuals who are below 18 years old and are in non-agricultural industries are allowed to not work a forklift truck. It is required that all forklift operators should have undergone both theoretical and practical training previous to commencing lift truck operation and they are also needed to take refresher courses.

The "American National Standard for Powered Industrial Trucks, ANSI B56.1-1969 are the standards which all powered industrial trucks should follow. The particular OSHA standards which employees as well as employers need to follow as stated in the General Industry Standards comprise 1910.178 "Powered industrial trucks", and standards for Marine Terminals 29 CFR 1917 Subpart C, "Cargo handling gear and equipment" and Long shoring 29 CFR 1918 Subpart G, "Cargo handling gear and equipment other than ship's gear.

There are various other regulations and directives which are essential for employers to be aware of. The OSHA and NIOSH both comprehensively outline regulations or signpost employers and employees to all regulations that apply.