

Forklift Safety Equipment

Forklift Safety Equipment - In different manufacturing, warehouse and agricultural operations and industries that used powered forklifts or lift trucks often inside the workplace. These industrial powered lift trucks could be used in order to raise and lower objects along with transfer objects that are either stored in containers or pallets to different areas on the property or ship merchandise to different locations. These industrial equipment assist to enhance productivity at the job location by lessening the need for excessive manual handling of items by workers. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, there are approximately twenty thousand severe injuries every year in America and about one hundred fatalities caused by forklift incidents.

There are various types of forklifts that have different load capacities. These types differ for specified maximum weight and forward center of gravity where a load is concerned. Worker injuries typically occur as a result from crushing incidents, collision with pedestrians, fall from the forklift or forklift overturn. Operator falls can occur as the employee descends or ascends into the driver cab or becomes ejected from the machinery in the event of an incident or a collision. Forklifts could overturn due to being overloaded, or having an unequal center of gravity of the load or traveling over an uneven surface that could cause the vehicle to topple over. It is essential for other co-workers to follow strict safety policies when working near the forklift. Without adequate safety measures, pedestrian co-workers are at risk from accidents or collisions related with an unsafe load.

With regards to lift truck maintenance, operation and training, there are strict training and standards to be followed. Like for instance, those who are under eighteen years old and are in non-agricultural industries are permitted to not operate a forklift truck. It is vital that all lift truck operators should have undergone both practical and theoretical training before commencing forklift operation and they are also required 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 that employers as well as employees should 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 directives and regulations which are essential for employers to be aware of. The OSHA and NIOSH both comprehensively outline regulations or signpost employees and employers to all regulations which apply.