

Safety Equipment for Forklifts

Forklift Safety Equipment - There are a variety of industries and operations, like for example warehousing, agricultural and manufacturing that make use of powered industrial trucks together with forklift trucks or lift trucks regularly inside the workplace. Lift trucks are utilized to be able to lower or raise objects or move stuff that are stored on pallets or in containers to different locations inside the workplace. These industrial machines aid to enhance productivity at the job location by lessening the need for excessive physical handling of stuff by workers. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, there are about twenty thousand serious injuries each and every year in the US and something like 100 fatalities due to the result of forklift incidents.

There are different types of lift trucks that have various load capacities. These models differ for particular maximum weight and forward center of gravity where a load is concerned. Worker injuries usually happen as a result from falls from the forklift, forklift overturn, crushing incidents or collision with pedestrians. Operator falls could take place as the worker ascends or descends into the driver cab or becomes ejected from the machine in the event of an incident or a collision. Lift trucks can overturn because of being overloaded, or having an unequal center of gravity of the load or traveling over an uneven surface which could cause the vehicle to topple over. It is significant for other co-workers to follow strict preventive measures if working near the lift truck. Without sufficient preventive measures, pedestrian co-workers are at risk from collisions or accidents associated with an unsafe cargo.

With regards to lift truck maintenance, operation and training, there are strict training and standards to be observed. For instance, those who are under 18 years old and are in non-agricultural trades are allowable not to operate a forklift truck. It is required that all lift truck operators should have undergone both theoretical and practical training before commencing forklift operation and they are likewise required to take refresher courses.

The "American National Standard for Powered Industrial Trucks, ANSI B56.1-1969 are the standards that all powered industrial trucks should comply with. The particular OSHA standards which employees and employers must 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 different other regulations and directives which are vital for employers to be aware of. The OSHA and NIOSH both comprehensively outline regulations or signpost employers and employees to all regulations which apply.