



TOOLBOX TALK



LOADING DOCK SAFETY ▼

29 CFR 1910.178

Transporting materials with a forklift is different than moving them with a cart or in a vehicle. Forklifts can weigh up to 9,000 pounds and travel as fast as 18 miles per hour. But unlike cars and carts, their weight is unevenly distributed (forklifts are heavier in the back to balance out the weight of loads that they carry on the front forks) and they only have front breaks.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that there are more than 540,000 fork truck operators in the US. It is also estimated that 1 in 10 fork trucks are involved in an incident each year.

Keep the following hazards top of mind when you operate a forklift or other powered industrial equipment:

- Properly manipulate, stack and unstack loads
- Follow correct procedures for classified hazardous locations where you may need to operate
- Stay out of restricted areas where you cannot operate
- Check ramps, slopes and narrow aisles for surface conditions that may affect stability
- Evenly distribute and balance loads being transported
- Properly ventilate storage areas to prevent the buildup of carbon monoxide, exhaust or other air hazards
- Watch for pedestrian traffic in the area

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants: _____

OUR SITE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS/PROCEDURES ▼

Continue employee participants on back if needed ►



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