

## Safety Equipment for Forklifts

Forklift Safety Equipment - In a variety of warehouse, agricultural and manufacturing operations and industries which utilized powered lift truck or forklifts on a regular basis in the workplace. These industrial powered forklifts could be used so as to lower and raise stuff in addition to transfer items that are either stored in containers or pallets to other locations on the property or ship merchandise to various locations. These industrial machines aid to improve productivity at the jobsite by reducing the need for excessive physical handling of stuff by staff. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, there are around twenty thousand severe injuries every year in the US and approximately one hundred fatalities due to the result of forklift incidents.

Each different lift truck or forklift has different load capacities. Where a load is concerned, each unit would differ for particular forward center gravity and maximum weight. Injuries for staff usually happen from falls from the forklift, forklift overturn, crushing incidents or falls from the forklift. Operator falls can happen 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 cargo or traveling over an uneven surface which can cause the vehicle to topple over. It is essential for other co-workers to follow strict preventive policies if working next to the lift truck. Without adequate preventive measures, pedestrian co-workers are at risk from accidents or collisions connected with an unsafe load.

There are strict standards and training to be following with regards to lift truck maintenance, operation and training. One instance, people in non-agricultural industries under the age of 18 years are not permitted to operate a lift truck. It is necessary that all lift truck operators must have undergone both practical and theoretical training prior to 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 which all powered industrial trucks need to follow. The particular OSHA standards that employers and employees must follow as stated in the General Industry Standards consist of 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 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.