



Weekly Safety Tip

"Your Connection for Workplace Safety"

Phone: 920-208-7520

We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!

Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.

And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.



SCI SAFETY NEWS OR TIP



SCI OSHA NEWS OR COMPLIANCE



SCI HEALTHYLIVING and WELLNESS NEWS

We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.

Let us know how you feel about our new look!

Safety Slogan

**Safety in – we win
James Lehrke-SCI**

of the week

SCI Safety Tip: Focus on Forklift Hazards and Prevent Injuries and Damage

Sources: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: September 26, 2012

There are numerous hazards associated with forklift operations. Do your operators know what they are and how to avoid them?

Forklift operators need to understand all the potential hazards to perform their jobs in a safe and appropriate manner and prevent accidents and injuries—to themselves or other workers.

Today, we'll focus on four issues that frequently lead to forklift accidents, injuries, and damage:

- Attachments
- Pedestrians
- Work environment
- Loads

Attachments

- Forklift attachments such as carton clamps, drum clamps, paper-roll clamps, rotators, and push-pull elements can affect the capacity of a forklift in a number of ways, including:
- Attachments can change operating clearances by extending the length and width of the forklift.
- Attachments can change the capacity of the forklift by adding weight. For example, if the attachment weighs 1,000 pounds, the capacity of the load you can carry is reduced by 1,000 pounds.
- Attachments usually change the stability and center of gravity of the forklift. For example, if an attachment moves the load away from the vertical face of the forks that will reduce the maximum load the forklift can carry.

Pedestrians

Most accidents with forklifts involve pedestrians. The most obvious causes of accidents involving pedestrians include:

- Having an obstructed view—the operator cannot see the pedestrian because of a load or an obstruction in the path
- Turning the forklift toward a pedestrian who is in front of or alongside the forklift

- Speeding, so that the forklift can't stop in time to avoid the pedestrian
- Being unaware of pedestrians in the area
- Carrying passengers on the forklift

Work Environment

Some forklift hazards are caused by the conditions present in the environment where the forklift is operating. For example:

- Using a combustible fuel-operated forklift in a poorly ventilated area, which could allow the buildup of carbon monoxide or carbon dioxide from the forklift
- Operating in an environment with ramps, which can increase the chance of a forklift accident
- Crossing railroad tracks, which can unbalance a forklift
- Operating and braking on slippery floors
- Operating on dirt and gravel
- Poor lighting
- There are many other possible hazards of a particular work environment that might cause a forklift accident. These include pits or openings in the floor, congested or narrow workspaces, and the presence of flammable and combustible material.

Loads

Load-carrying hazards include:

- Unstable loads
- Loads of hazardous materials
- Carrying a heavy load with the forks too high
- Working around loading docks
- Carrying loads that block the forward vision
- Stacking and unstacking on racks

SCI OSHA Compliance: Inspect Your Way to Safer Forklift Operations

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: September 27, 2012

According to OSHA, 1 in 15 forklift-related accidents are caused by improper maintenance. A thorough preoperational inspection will identify maintenance problems before they cause an accident.

Making sure a forklift is safe to operate is an important part of forklift safety training. Operators must be trained to inspect their lift trucks effectively to ensure safe operation.

A preoperational forklift inspection always begins with a "walkaround." Here's a simple 4-step walkaround that you can teach your forklift operators in just one short safety meeting:

- **Walk up to the forklift.** Make sure the forklift is properly disengaged with the forks down, the key turned off, and the forklift set in neutral with the parking brake on.
- **Walk to either side of the forklift.** Check the tires, making sure there are no gouges, tears, or imbedded metal. Also check to make sure that they are properly inflated. Check the overhead guard, and make sure that there is no debris lodged behind the mast.
- **Walk to the front of the forklift.** Check to make sure the forks and hoses are in good condition. Fork pins should be in place, and the backrest should be solid. The mast and chains should be greased.

- **Walk to the rear of the forklift.** Check that the counterbalance bolt is tight, and the radiator is clear of debris and is not leaking.

Basics of an Operational Inspection

After completing the walkaround inspection, operators should conduct an operational inspection with the engine running.

This inspection includes:

- Accelerator linkage
- Inch control (if equipped)
- Brakes
- Steering
- Drive control: forward and reverse
- Tilt control: forward and back
- Hoist and lowering control
- Attachment control
- Horn
- Lights
- Back-up alarm

When training on inspections, emphasize that any powered industrial truck not in safe operating condition should be removed from service. Also stress that all repairs must be made by authorized personnel.

HEALTHY BITES

Quick Tips for Healthy Living

PREVEA
Health & Wellness

Mental Health and Relationships

- For a better relationship, put on your rose-colored glasses. Having an idealistic view of your partner leads to a happier marriage
 - Want to have a happier marriage? Think only good thoughts about your spouse. Research shows that idealizing your partner is linked to marital bliss. Interpreting your husband's or wife's everyday actions as funny, considerate or kind leads to greater appreciation, helping couples stay committed when things get rocky. Believing in your partner's goodness helps take the edge off daily struggles and disagreements. This leaves couples feeling closer, more connected and fulfilled. So much for the idea that high expectations will only lead to disappointment. Time to toss the cynicism and believe in your fairy-tale ending.
- In a relationship rut? Go on a double date. Couples who bond with other couples report feeling happier and closer.
 - Forging close friendships with other couples could be the key to marital bliss. Couples who spend time bonding with other couples report greater relationship satisfaction than those who hang out just with each other. Among couples who went out on double dates, those who carried on meaningful conversations felt more positive afterward than those who engaged in small talk. The emotional boost from the newfound friendships translated into feeling closer to their romantic partner. According to the researchers, bonding with others helps you bond with each other.



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<http://www.safetyconnections.com/>

In Loving
Memory of Jessica Lefirke