

OSAA

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY

ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA

Forklift Safety

» Workplace Hazards

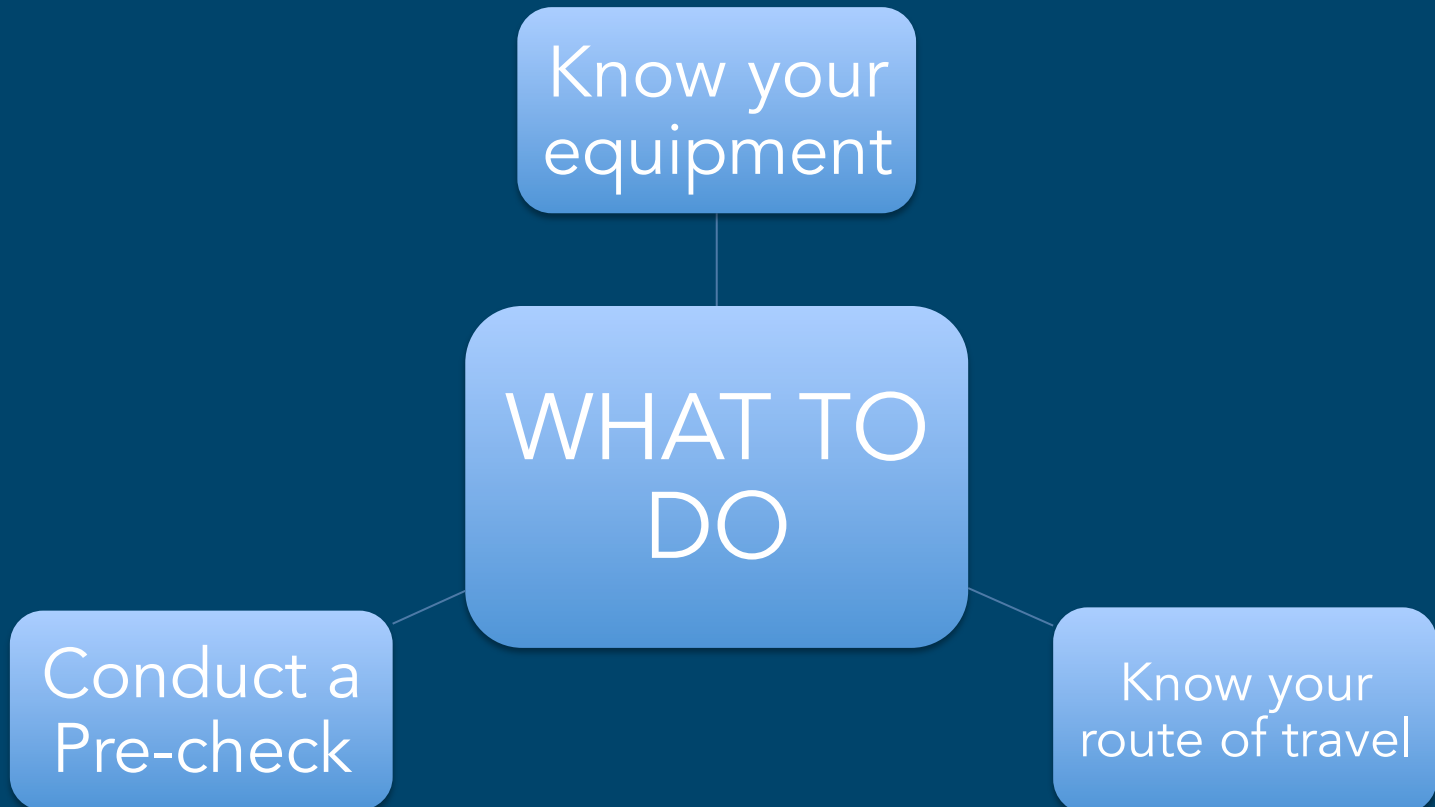
- Forklifts driven off loading docks
- Forklifts fall between docks and unsecured trailers
- Workers struck by forklift
- Workers fall while on elevated pallets or tines

» Forklift Operator Hazards

- Has not been properly trained
- Not familiar with forklifts operation
- Operates carelessly
- Uses a forklift that is unsafe

- 35,000 serious injuries
- 62,000 non-serious injuries
- 11% of all forklifts are involved in accidents every year

Ensure a SAFE ride



» Know your Equipment

- Controls
- Adjustments
- Load Rating
- Turning Radius
- Balance Points
- Overhead Clearance
- Side Clearance



» Pre-Check

- Safety check at the beginning of each shift

- Controls
- Leaks
- Horn
- Lights
- Alarm
- Battery
- Steering
- Brakes
- Missing Parts
- Extinguisher
- Seat Belt
- Fuel

- Do not operate any damaged forklift
 - Report "Out of Service" problems immediately



» Safety Rules

- #1 Rule: Use your seat belt at ALL times
- Operate only in designated areas
 - Adequate ventilation necessary
- Do not exceed the floor load rating
- Do not exceed the forklift's rated capacity
 - found on the name plate
- Do not use a forklift to tow or push another forklift, another vehicle, or other equipment
- Use pneumatic-wheel forklifts for irregular terrain and when traveling on streets
- Use hard-wheel forklifts indoors only

» Before Traveling

- Tilt the mast back
- Maintain forks 4-6 in. off the driving surface
- Before Entering a Truck
 - Check dock boards
 - Check interior of truck
- Ensure trailer wheels are chocked
- If Tractor is not attached make sure there are jack stands



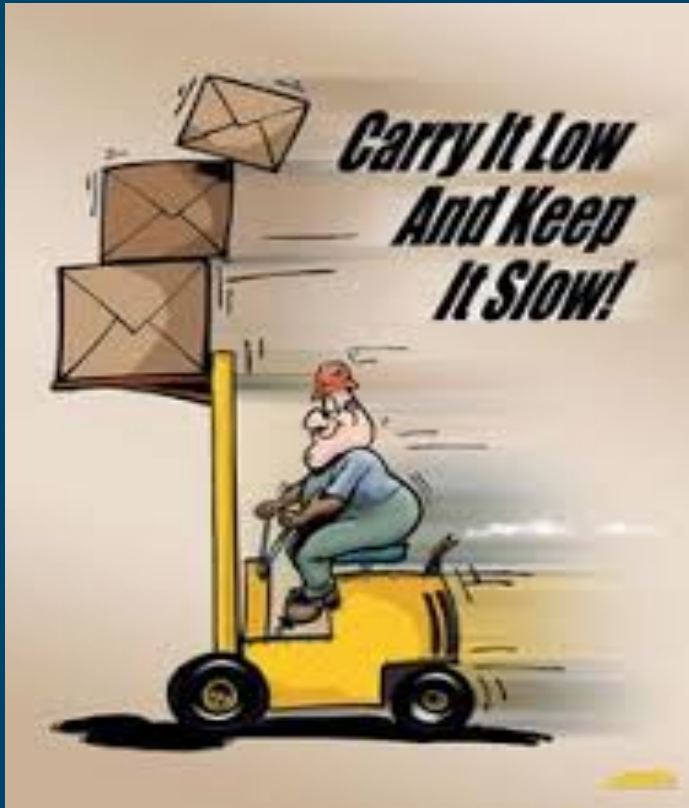
» When Traveling

- Speed Requirements
 - Company policies
 - under 5 mph (8 km/hr) indoor speed
 - under 15 mph (24 km/hr) outdoor speed
- Yield to pedestrians
- Observe all traffic signals
- Do not carry passengers
 - Except where factory-installed seats are provided
- Keep arms and legs inside forklift
- Do not jump from a moving forklift
- When following another forklift
 - Stay at least three vehicle lengths back
- When forward vision is obscured, drive in reverse

- Adequate clearance
 - Under structures
 - Between structures
 - Overhead power lines – 10ft of separation
- Entering a doorway
 - Watch Overhead & Side Clearance
 - Use Horn to Warn others
 - GO SLOW



» Lifting



- Know the weight of the load
- Do not attach slings, cables, or chains to the forks to lift materials or objects from underneath them
- Secure unstable loads before starting the vehicle
 - Use tie downs
 - Use wide tines and lock in place
- Never add a counterweight
- Do not lift material or equipment you are unfamiliar with

» Ramps

■ Loaded

- Always ensure load is against the back rest
- Drive UP the ramp
- Back DOWN ramps



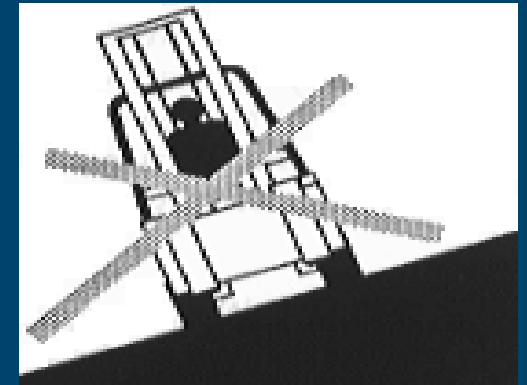
■ Unloaded

- Drive FORWARD down ramps
- Drive BACKWARDS up the ramp for better view



■ Hazards

- Never turn sideways on a ramp or inclined area



» Parking

- Forks fully lowered
- Turn off the power
- Parking brake set
- Park on level area
- Place all the controls in the neutral position
- Don't Block the exit
- Take the keys
- A forklift is considered unattended if the operator is out of sight of the truck or more than 25 ft (8 m) away



» Refueling

- Fuel gasoline, diesel and propane forklifts outdoors only
- Appropriate clothing (PPE - gloves)
- Close the valve for the propane bottle while the engine is fueling to consume all gas in the line
- No Smoking
- Propane tank secured

» Recharging

- Electric Forklift
 - Charge in designated, posted and well-ventilated areas
- No smoking or spark producing operations
- Battery maintenance
 - Wear appropriate clothing (PPE)



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Forklift Safety

Type D Forklifts:

Diesel-powered units that have minimum acceptable safeguards against inherent fire hazards.

Non-Hazardous Forklifts:

These have minimum acceptable safeguards against fire hazards

Type LP Forklifts:

Liquefied petroleum gas-powered units that have minimum acceptable safeguards against inherent fire hazards

Type E Forklifts:

Electrically powered units that have minimum acceptable safeguards against inherent fire and electrical shock hazards

Type G Forklifts:

Gasoline-powered units that have minimum acceptable safeguards against inherent fire hazards

Type G/LP Forklifts

Operate on either gasoline or liquefied petroleum gas & have minimum acceptable safeguards against inherent fire hazards

Forklift Safety

Hazardous Forklifts:

Used in locations where metal dusts, organic dusts, flammable vapors, & gases may be present. Indoor use of fork trucks requires verification that safe limits of carbon monoxide emissions are not exceeded.

Type DS Forklifts:

diesel-powered with additional safeguards for exhaust, fuel, and electrical systems. *meets requirements for Type D units

Type DY Forklifts:

diesel-powered units with all the safeguards of Type DS unit. No electrical equipment--including ignition & equipped with temperature limitation features

Type EE Forklifts

electrically powered units with all electrical equipment completely enclosed. *meets requirements for Types E and ES units

Type ES Forklifts:

electrically powered – additional safeguards for electrical system to prevent sparks and limit surface temperatures. *meets requirements for Type E units

Forklift Safety

Hazardous Forklifts:

Used in locations where metal dusts, organic dusts, flammable vapors, & gases may be present. Indoor use of fork trucks requires verification that safe limits of carbon monoxide emissions are not exceeded.

Type EX Forklifts:

electrically powered units used in atmospheres containing specifically named flammable vapors, dusts, and, under certain condition, fibers

Type LPS Forklifts:
liquefied petroleum gas - safeguards for exhaust, fuel and electrical systems. May be used in some locations where the use of an LP unit may not be suitable

Type GS Forklifts:

gasoline-powered - additional safeguards for the exhaust, fuel, and electrical systems. *meets requirement for Type G units

Type GS/LPS Forklifts:

gasoline or liquefied petroleum gas - safeguards for the exhaust, fuel, and electrical systems

» OSHA Outlook

- Training Program
 - In-house guidelines
 - Outside Agency
 - Forklift Supplier
 - 3rd Party
- Certification
 - 3 year
 - Site Specific training necessary for new hires
 - Certification for each type of forklift



» Claim

- Forklift was on a hydraulic jack without jack stands or other support
- Employee crawled underneath to replace a filter
- Asked assisting employees to jack forklift up higher but jack gave way crushing the claimant resulting in death
 - Employee lost his life
 - \$200,340 paid in compensation
 - Used 3 ton hydraulic jack on 8 ton forklift
 - Insured had no written safety program covering the jacking, chocking, jack stands, blocking, etc.

» Claim

- Employees were working in a warehouse with multiple forklifts and electric pallet jacks in operation
- Employee was standing next to electric pallet jack with one foot on and one foot off
- Employees foot was backed into by a forklift and crushed between forklift and electric pallet jack, crushing pallet jack operators foot
 - Employee was rushed into emergency surgery to repair foot
 - Vascular Surgeons were unable to reestablish blood flow
 - Four days later the employees leg was amputated at the knee
 - Initial reserves were set at just over \$500,000

» THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. Safe operation depends on YOU!
2. Know your Equipment
3. Follow the Safety Rules
4. Know your Load



MISSION STATEMENT

Ensure a **SAFE RIDE**
by knowing your
equipment

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