

SAFETY RULES

FORKLIFT

Operator Safety

Employees must be trained and authorized before operating a forklift. Employee training should include everything from inspecting to driving a forklift.

WorkSAFE Tips

- Employees must be trained and authorized before operating forklifts.
- Perform a written forklift inspection before use.
- Report maintenance concerns or hazards in writing to a supervisor.
- Report propane or fuel leaks to a supervisor immediately.
- Remove unsafe forklifts from service, and lock and tag the machine out of service.
- Do not perform maintenance on forklifts unless trained and authorized.
- Always wear your seat belt when operating forklifts to prevent ejection during rollover accidents.
- Never lift anyone on forklift forks.
- Use only approved lifting platforms and fall restraint harnesses for lifting employees.
- Keep forklift speeds slow to prevent striking a pedestrian.
- When traveling with a load, drive up and back down inclines and ramps.
- When traveling unloaded, back up and drive down inclines and ramps.
- When a load blocks the view of the operator, travel in reverse.
- Do not smoke in forklift charging or refueling areas.
- Chock or block wheels to prevent trailers from rolling during loading or unloading.
- To prevent tipping of an unhooked trailer, use a jack stand to support the nose of the trailer.
- Never overload a forklift.
- Honk the forklift horn when approaching corners or entering doorways.
- Lower the forks and turn the machine off when leaving the operator's seat.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.

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