

TOOL BOX TALKS

Standing on the Forks

Construction is hard enough. It's very unsafe. We put ourselves in unsafe positions sometimes when we get in a hurry. What can we do to make things safer for us, so we can go home at the end of the day? We need to continually survey our work for opportunities to make the job safer. But we need to also make good decisions. Standing on the forks is never a good idea. Take the extra time to make the job safer and get the right equipment for the job.

WORKSAFE TIPS

NEVER STAND ON THE FORKS

- Lifting workers on the forks is unacceptable.
- Never lift anyone on the forks, no matter what the reason. Getting into a hurry could kill a coworker.
- An operator, as part of their forklift training, should know not to lift anyone on the forks.
- A fall could be – and is very likely to be fatal.
- If the employee does survive the fall, what are the injuries? Broken legs, arms? Spinal injury?
- Can a worker survive after falling twenty feet to the concrete? Head injuries are instantly fatal.
- Could a work basket be attached to the forks?
- Always wear fall protection when working from platforms/baskets attached to forklifts.
 - Full body harness
 - Short lanyard
 - Anchorage point
- Forklift-mounted work platforms must be enclosed with guardrails on all four sides.
 - Top rail at 39-45 inches
 - Mid rail
 - Toe board
- Chain work baskets to the forklift backrest.





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