

FORKLIFT SAFETY TIPS: LIFTING CONCERNS



Forklift-related injuries can be devastating to employees and employers, but they can be avoided. These safety facts and tips should be kept in mind anytime you operate a lift truck.

FACTS ABOUT FORKLIFT-RELATED INJURIES

Forklift-related accidents result in more than **20,000** injuries every year.



The cost of these injuries to employers is estimated to be more than **\$100 million**.

Nearly 100%

of these accidents could have been avoided by following the proper safety procedures.



TIPS FOR PREVENTING FORKLIFT ACCIDENTS



Always carry a load as low as possible to prevent tipping or wobbling.



When not carrying anything, keep the blades low to prevent accidentally striking a co-worker in the chest or abdomen.



Angle the blades so the front ends are higher than the back to provide greater stability.



Never allow anyone to stand or ride on the blades of the forklift.



Always use the emergency brake whenever stationary.



Move as slowly as you can to always have enough time to react to a sudden change around you.



Be on the lookout for door frames and other objects that may hang over your path and create an obstruction.



Always be aware of the total height of the lift, including whatever it's carrying.



Before you set anything down, always check underneath the lift to ensure there aren't people or obstructions below it.



To prevent collisions, don't operate a forklift in proximity to other equipment.



Check that the items you're carrying are wrapped together tightly to prevent them from falling off the blades.



Whenever driving on ramps or gradients, always go forward while going up, and go backward while going down.



If pallets or skids appear to be worn or damaged, do not use them.



Never drive over debris, as it may cause the load to become unstable or shift.



Know the load capacity of the equipment and never exceed it under any circumstances.