



## RISK MANAGEMENT ADVISORY

Utica National Insurance Risk Management Department Bulletin

Construction Series

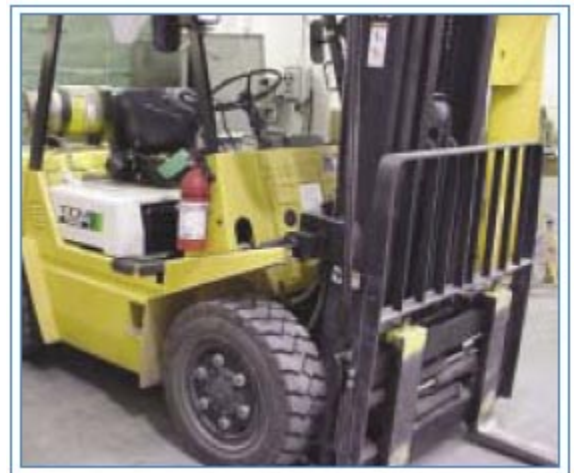
Think Safety!

### Forklift Safety

**Hazard:** Nationwide, approximately 100 employees are fatally injured and approximately 95,000 employees are injured every year while operating powered industrial trucks. Forklift turnover accounts for a significant number of these fatalities.

#### Solutions:

- Train and certify all operators to ensure that they operate forklifts safely.
- Do not allow any employee under 18 years-old to operate a forklift.
- Properly maintain haulage equipment, including tires.
- Do not modify or make attachments that affect the capacity and safe operation of the forklift without written approval from the forklift's manufacturer.
- Examine forklift trucks for defects before using.
- Follow safe operating procedures for picking up, moving, putting down and stacking loads. Drive safely –never exceed 5 mph and slow down on congested or slippery surface areas.
- Prohibit stunt driving and horseplay.
- Do not handle loads heavier than the capacity of the industrial truck.
- Remove unsafe or defective forklift trucks from service.
- Operators should always wear seatbelts.
- Avoid traveling with elevated loads.
- Assure that rollover protective structure is in place.
- Make certain that the reverse signal alarm is operational



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