

TOOL BOX TALKS

Forklift Work Platforms

Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention



All terrain forklifts are becoming more common on all types of workplaces. They're more maneuverable and easy to operate. They help lift heavy objects and can be used as employee work platforms. This document covers the correct and safe use of work platforms. Review these tips with employees and operators.

Tool Box Tips

1. Forklifts are commonly used in many types of workplaces.
2. Survey each job before beginning platform work to identify overhead obstructions and power lines.
3. Never lift anyone on the forks or pallets.
4. Make sure the work platform does not exceed the lifting and load limits of the forklift.
5. Use a platform that is designed specifically for the forklift you're using.
6. Forklift work platforms must be constructed to OSHA, ANSI and ASME standards and in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.
7. Forklift work platforms need to be secured to the forklift work mast to prevent sliding or slide off.
8. Forklift work platforms need to be inspected before the beginning of each work shift by a competent person.
9. The platform must have a top rail, mid rail and toe board constructed to OSHA standards.
10. Never stand on work platform guardrails.
11. Employees lifted on work platforms need to be protected with a personal fall arrest harness and lanyard.
12. Forklift operators must have documented training.
13. When working on platforms employees cannot use ladders, buckets or other unsafe means.
14. Employees are not allowed in platforms when the forklift is moving around the job site.
15. The forklift operator must stay in the seat and belted when employees are on work platforms.



This is an example of a forklift platform.

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.

For more information:



www.worksafecenter.com



1.888.499.SAFE (7233)

Missouri Employers Mutual

Work SAFE