

IDEAL SAIFE News
 Chemical & Supply Company Safety Awareness Is For Everyone

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Standup Forklift Under-ride Hazards

Forklift truck operators must look in the direction of travel and keep the forklift under control at all times. One of the potential hazards faced by standup forklift operators is the crushing hazard that can arise when traveling, with the forks trailing, in a warehouse near a storage rack or similar obstruction. The risk is that a horizontal rack beam (crossbar) or similar obstruction might enter the operator's compartment in a situation referred to as "under-ride." This Safety and Health Information Bulletin (SHIB) discusses ways to reduce the crushing hazard to the operator associated with under-ride. Awareness of the precautions and safety measures highlighted in this SHIB can help prevent serious injuries and fatalities related to warehouse operations.

Background

A forklift "under-ride" hazard arises when the forklift operator travels with the forks trailing and backs up toward the storage rack. If the operator drives the forklift too far, so that the forklift passes beneath the horizontal crossbar (i.e., the operator creates an "under-ride"), the crossbar can enter the operator's compartment and crush the operator inside the compartment.

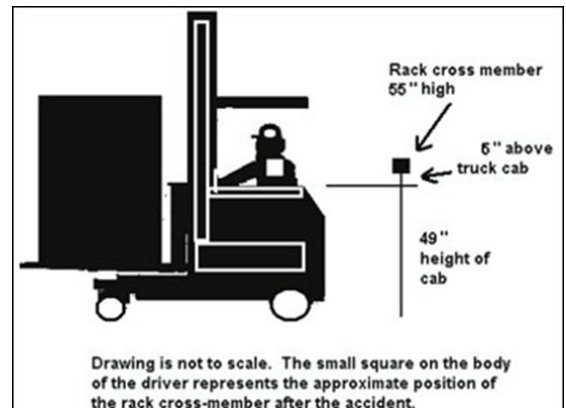
The Occupational Safety and

Health Administration's (OSHA) Integrated Management Information System data for the period of 1993 through 2008 indicate that at least nine employees have been killed and three employees sustained severe crushing injuries when operating a standup forklift in reverse. These forklifts did not have a protective rear guard or corner post to prevent under-ride from occurring.

Accident Description

The OSHA Cleveland Area Office investigated a fatality at a warehouse where a standup forklift operator was found pinned between the lower horizontal crossbar of a storage-rack shelving system and the interior of the operator's compartment. The horizontal crossbar of the shelving system was 55 inches (140 centimeters) above the floor, while the top surface of the operator's compartment was only 49 inches (124 centimeters) above the floor. This left a space of 6 inches (15 centimeters) between the crossbar and the top surface of the operator's compartment. Although the

forklift had an overhead guard, the shelving rack was not positioned at the same level as the guard to prevent the under-ride from occurring. When the operator traveled with the forks trailing, the forklift passed under the crossbar, which struck the operator above the waist and pinned his torso against a



part of the operator's compartment. The operator died of asphyxiation injuries.

OSHA's Standard Requirements

Proper training is essential to the safe operation of powered industrial trucks. Paragraph (I) of OSHA's Powered Industrial Trucks Standard, 29 CFR 1910.178, contains training and certification requirements for the use of forklifts that are specific to the workplace. The standard requires

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HAPPY HALLOWEEN



**FROM YOUR FIENDS AT
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October is Cyber Security Awareness Month

STOP.THINK.CONNECT.

Protect yourself and help keep the web a safer place for everyone.

Stop.

Stop hackers from accessing your accounts - set secure passwords.

Stop sharing too much information - keep your personal information personal.

Stop - trust your gut, if some-



thing doesn't feel right, stop what you are doing.

Stop and think about who can see the information you post online. Are you giving total strangers access to your information?

Stop any questionable online behavior. Only do and say things online that you would do in real life.

Think.

Think about the information you want to share before you share it.

Think how your online actions can affect your offline life.

Think before you act - don't automatically click on links.

Think about why you are sharing information online. Is it going to be safe?

Think about why you're going to the site. Did you get it from someone you trust?

Think about who you're talking to online. Do you *really* know who they are?

Connect.

Connect over secure networks.

Connect with people you know.

Connect with care and be on the lookout for potential threats.

Connect safely and show your friends and family how to behave online.

Connect with people and sites you trust when you're online.



For additional tips, visit the [National Cyber Security Alliance \(NCSA\)](http://www.nscsa.gov)

Think about who you are talking to online. Do you really know who they are?

2011-2012 Flu Vaccine Information

Who should get vaccinated this season?

Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine each year. This recommendation has been in place since February 24, 2010 when [CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) voted for "universal" flu vaccination in the U.S. to expand protection against the flu to more people. While everyone should get a flu vaccine each flu season, it's especially important that certain people get vaccinated either because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications or because they live with or care for people at high risk for developing flu-related complications.

- Pregnant women
- Children younger than 5, but especially children

younger than 2 years old

- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:
 - Health care workers
 - Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
 - Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age (these chil-

dren are too young to be vaccinated)

What viruses will the 2011-2012 vaccine protect against?

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommended that the United State's 2011-2012 seasonal influenza vaccine contain the following three vaccine viruses:

- an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus;
- an A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2)-like virus; and
- a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus.

The 2011-12 influenza vaccine can protect you from getting sick from these three viruses, or it can make your illness milder if you get a re-

Standup Forklift Under-ride Hazards Continued from pg. 1.

employers to develop and implement a training program for all operators based on the general principles of safe truck operation; the types of vehicles being used in the workplace, including the instructions, warnings, and precautions found in the operator's manual; the hazards of the workplace created by the use of the vehicle; and the general safety requirements of the OSHA standard.

Additionally, 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1) and (n)(6) require operators to keep the forklift under control at all times and to look in the direction of travel.

Recommendations

The following recommendations will reduce the risk of under-ride hazards associated with operating standup forklifts.

Employers should evaluate their worksite to determine if an under-ride hazard exists. If there are rack crossbars or similar obstructions in the facility, the employer should take one or more of the following actions:

If possible, make modifications to the shelving system.

Adjust the shelf heights so that the body of the forklift below the operator's compartment will strike the rack in the event of contact, preventing under-ride from occurring.

Adjust the shelf heights so that the forklift's overhead guard will strike the rack in

the event of contact, preventing under-ride from occurring.

Install a barrier, even with the outer edge of the storage rack (such as a curb or floor level shelf), so that the bottom of the forklift will strike the curb or shelf in the event of contact, preventing an under-ride from occurring.

Purchase, where appropriate, standup forklifts that have corner posts, extended backrests, rear post guards, or other features to prevent an under-ride from occurring. (Specific guards or other means that enhance safe operations would be determined through cooperation between the user and manufacturer (see ANSI / ITSDF B56.1-2005, para.4.5.3, 7.30, and 7.36).)

Contact the manufacturer to discuss installing rear post guards or other equivalent protections that address the under-ride hazard on existing standup forklifts. These posts may be available from the forklift manufacturer. (Note that modifications and additions which affect safe operation shall not be performed by the customer or user without the manufacturer's prior written approval. 29 CFR 1910.178 (a)(4).)

Evaluate control methods to assure that guards do not limit visibility, present pinch-point hazards, or add any additional hazard to forklift operators or other employees on the site.

Train employees to operate forklifts safely as required by paragraph (l) of 29 CFR 1910.178, including recognizing the hazards of the

workplace created by the use of the vehicles.

Refer to the Powered Industrial Trucks (Forklift) eTool as a resource for information to keep employees who operate forklifts safe on the job. The eTool provides a review of potential hazards and a summary of key OSHA requirements and industry recommended practices for forklift operations.

Note: It is a violation of Federal law for anyone UNDER 18 years of age to operate a forklift in nonagricultural employment.

Conclusion

Minimizing the potential for serious or fatal injuries to standup forklift operators is the primary concern of this SHIB. Following the safe work practices recommended in this SHIB, and training employees as required in OSHA regulations, will help accomplish this goal.

References

OSHA Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), 1993-2005.

American National Standard ANSI/ITSDF B56.1-2005, Safety Standard for Low Lift and High Lift Trucks, Industrial Truck Standards Development Foundation.

[Powered Industrial Trucks \(Forklift\) eTool](#)

Safety and Health Information Bulletin, 03-09-30, Protecting Young Workers: Prohibiting Against Young Workers Operating Forklifts.



This photograph depicts a forklift under a storage rack after an under-ride accident. The crossbar is protruding above the operator's cab. Forklift manufacturers have various features available to assist in preventing such under-rides.

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**Safety Awareness Is
 For Everyone**

It is recommended that everyone in good health get vaccinated this season, regardless of whether they were vaccinated last season.

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COMPUTER	HACKER	OSHA	STOP
CONNECT	HALLOWEEN	PEOPLE	THINK
CROSSBAR	IMPORTANT	PREVENTION	TRAINING
DOCTOR	INFLUENZA	SEASON	VACCINATION
DRUGSTORE	INFORMATION	SHELF	VIRUS
FORKLIFT	ONLINE	STANDUP	WAREHOUSE

2011-2012 Flu Vaccine Information

Continued from pg. 2.

lated but different influenza virus strain. (For more information about how the viruses in the vaccine are selected, visit [Selecting the Viruses in the Seasonal Influenza \(Flu\) Vaccine.](#))

The viruses in this season's vaccine are the same viruses that were selected for the 2010-2011 influenza vaccine for the United States. More information about the vaccine virus selection process is available at [Vaccine Selection for the 2011-2012 Season.](#)

Why do I need a flu vaccine every year?

CDC recommends an influenza (flu) vaccine every year as the first and best way to protect against getting the flu. By 2 weeks after vaccination, the

body develops antibodies to protect against the viruses in the vaccine. Those antibodies help protect us from influenza viruses if we come in contact with them later. However multiple studies conducted over different seasons and across vaccine types and influenza virus subtypes

have shown that the body's immunity to influenza viruses (acquired either through natural infection or vaccination) declines over time. The decline in antibodies is influenced by several factors, including a person's age, the antigen used in the vaccine, and the person's general health (for example, certain chronic health conditions may have an impact on immunity). While specific data on the duration of immunity from the

2010-2011 influenza vaccine is not available, CDC experts believe that immunity from vaccination (or infection) last season will have decreased by now in most people. It is not possible to say whether this reduced immunity would still be sufficient to prevent infection in 2011-2012 and therefore it is recommended that everyone 6 months of age and older get vaccinated this season, regardless of whether they were vaccinated last season.

Where can I get a flu shot?

The flu vaccine is available. You can get your shot at local drugstores, your doctor's office, and even in some grocery stores. Protect yourself and your family.

Get vaccinated!

