







## **Definition**



- 29 CFR 1910.178
- · Powered Industrial Truck
  - · A mobile, power-propelled truck used to carry, push, pull, lift, stack or tier materials(ASME)
  - · Commonly known as forklifts, pallet trucks, rider trucks, forktrucks, or lift trucks
  - Can be powered through electric or internal combustion engines



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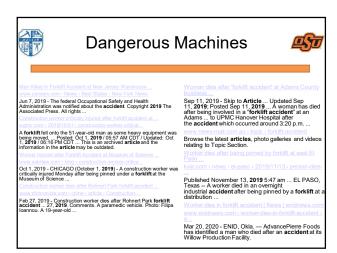




















## PIT Fatalities



- Approximately 85 forklift deaths and 34,900 serious injuries each year due
- In the United States, approximately one person is killed in a forklift accident on average every 3 days
  - Most deaths occur when a forklift operator jumps from a lift truck that is rolling over
  - · 42% of the forklift fatalities
  - · The leading cause of death involving lift trucks

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## PIT Fatalities



- According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the three most common types of forklift injuries happen when:
  - · A forklift overturns
  - Workers are hit, struck, crushed or pinned by a forklift
  - · A worker falls from a forklift
- Non-serious injuries related to forklift accidents are 61,800 each year.
  - Collisions with structures such as storage racks and fixed equipment

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 It is estimated that 20 - 25% of the accidents are caused by inadequate training



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Why Are Forklift Trucks So Dangerous?



- Stability
- Visibility
- Fires & Explosions



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## **PIT Terms**



- Center of Gravity
- Directly affects the safe lifting capacity of the PIT
  - Positioning the load's center of gravity as close as possible to the center of the PIT helps keep the vehicle from turning over
  - Speed of travel, centrifugal force from turning, load height, mast tilt, ground slope, and other factors affect the location of the combined center of gravity
- Load Center
  - The distance of the center of gravity from the vertical part of the
  - Keeping the load as close as possible to the vertical part of the forks will help keep the load from causing the truck to tip forward
- Stability Triangle
  - This is a triangle formed by the front axle and the rear center point inline with rear axle. The combined center of gravity (load center plus vehicle center of gravity) must stay within the stability triangle to maintain stability

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Collaborative Bachelor's Degree Program of Fire Protection and Safety Engineering Technology between Southwest Jiaotong University and Oklahoma State University, U.S.A.

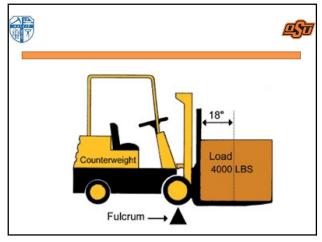


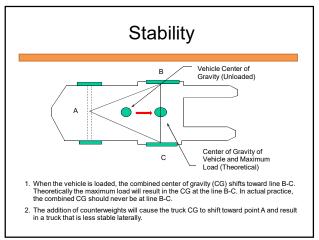
# Stability Triangle

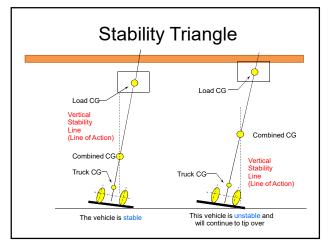
Watch Videos Forklifts 1 Forklifts 2















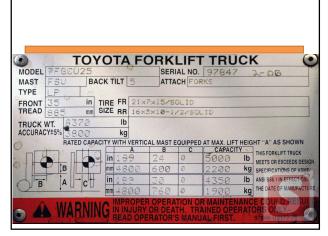
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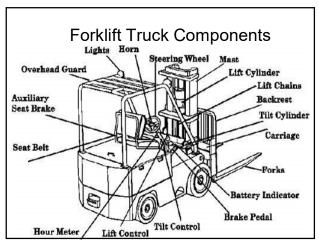
## How much does a PIT weigh?



- Service is generally 1.5 to 2 times the lifting capacity
  - Example, forklift rated to lift 5,000 pounds
  - weight of forklift will be between 7,500 and 10,000 pounds

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## Classes of Trucks



- · Class I Electric Motor Rider Trucks
- · Class II Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks
- Class III Electric Motor Hand or Hand/Rider Trucks
- · Class IV Internal Combustion Engine Trucks
- Class V Internal Combustion Engine Trucks
- Class VI Electric & Internal Combustion Engine Tractors
- Class VII Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks

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# Class I Electric Motor Rider Trucks





Sit Down Rider - Electric

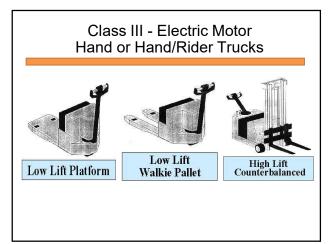
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# Class II - Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks Order Picker Turret Truck Reach Type Outrigger









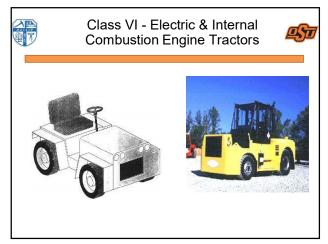




























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# Fires & Explosions



- The engines and motors can be dangerous ignition sources for flammable vapors, dusts, and fibers
  - design of such engines and motors is a costly matter
  - the specification of the right industrial truck for the right job: no more, no less
- The more fire-safe models, the more expensive

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# Operators



- Truck Selection
- Safeguards
- · Operating Principles
- Inspection and Maintenance
  - Watch video:
    - · Forklift Inspection







## **Truck Selection**



- · The hazard of fires and explosions
- · The operations
- Fueling
  - · Watch videos:
    - · Forklift Battery change
    - · Forklift Refueling
- Guarding
- · Training of drivers
- Maintenance

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# Safeguards



- Head protection
- A backup alarm that works whenever the truck backs up is a best practice
- Every truck should have a nameplate showing the weight of the truck and its related capacity
- Placing extra weight on the rear of a lift truck to counterbalance an overload is never permitted

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## **Operating Principles**



- Operators can prevent traffic accident by using the same safe practices that apply to highway traffic.
- Avoid collisions, look in the direction of travel, maintaining a clear view of it.
- Trucks should cross railroad tracks diagonally whenever possible and park at least 8 feet from the centerline of tracks.
- Disabled trucks should be moved by towing with a tow bar and safety chain.
- Watch video:
  - · Trailer Loading







## Maintenance



- Maintenance personnel should thoroughly inspect powered industrial trucks on a regular basis and give them a complete overhaul after regular periods of operation.
- Operators should make daily inspections of controls, brakes, tires, and other moving parts.
- Have to be inspected after every shift if continuous used for safety.
- No latitude is permitted concerning defective industrial trucks, to prevent them from being operated.

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# **Operator Qualification**



- · Training prior to use
- Performance Evaluation every 3 years
- Re-training if Performance Evaluation shows problem
- Re-training if Accident Investigation shows operator error
- · No licensure required
- · Some companies have policies
  - Watch Video:
    - Operator Qualification