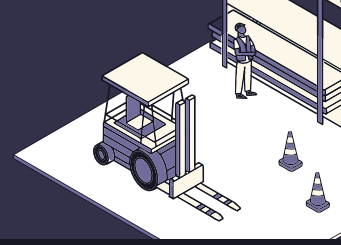


Forklift & Moving Plant (vehicles)



156 workers were seriously injured by moving objects in 2022, and five workers died from vehicle accidents.

Awareness of hazards:

A forklift is a vehicle hazard presenting multiple risks. Moving and raising objects risk impacts, entrapment, and crushing. A diesel forklift also emits exhaust fumes creating a toxic atmosphere. Noise is another health hazard.

Understanding risks:

Working environments, conditions, and site organisation contribute to risks e.g., indoor/restricted spaces, busy or public spaces, noise, dark or poor visibility, uneven or unstable surfaces, different levels, other vehicles, raised and falling objects, weather conditions, debris and rubbish can increase vehicle risks.

Proper use of forklifts (plant and equipment) considers the size and frequency of lifts, operating surfaces, and operating environments. Maintaining the safe condition of plant and equipment.

Human factors include alertness (impairment, distraction, and judgement), awareness (senses and perceptions), capability (incapacitation and fitness), and reactions (immobility and avoidance).

Safe behaviours include maintaining eye contact with operator and wearing PPE. **Unsafe behaviours** include being mentally or physically unfit and not taking rest breaks.

Eliminate or minimise risks (examples):

Risk controls focus on either the hazard or the behaviour of workers and others.

- **Eliminate the hazard.** Electric forklifts (fumes).
- **Substitute the hazard.** Electric lifts may introduce new risks – e.g., silent.
- **Isolate the hazard.** Physical barriers and isolation zones. Ventilation systems. Site management (housekeeping).
- **Use engineered modifications.** Crush/tipping and rollover protection. Seatbelts. Proximity warning systems, alerts, and signals.

Focusing on human behaviours include:

- **Administration of safe systems of work.** Certification and inspection of plant and safety systems. Engagement, training, and supervision. First aid and emergency response capability. Hazard, competence, and service registers. Safety system reviews. Signage, spotters, and cones. Communication equipment and practices.
- **Personal protection equipment (PPE).** Safe practices (e.g., eye contact and hi-visibility clothing). Sensory and physical protection.