

CBS Corporate Safety and Environmental Affairs

CBS Corporation, 20 Stanwix Street,
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Powered Industrial Trucks – Forklifts

Forklifts are used throughout CBS to move, carry, and lift equipment, boxes, crates, and other containers. As required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), any employee who operates a forklift must receive training and be certified in the operation of the forklift. Refresher training must be provided if an operator has been involved in an accident or near miss/unsafe operation and when new equipment is purchased.

Approximately 35,000 serious injuries and 62,000 non-serious injuries involving forklifts occur in the United States every year, with nearly 100 workers killed.

Listed below are some general safety tips that should be followed by all forklift operators:

- Before each use, perform a routine check of fluid levels; tire pressure; lights and warning devices; and brakes and steering controls.
- If at any time a forklift is found to be defective, in need of repair, or in any way unsafe, it must be taken out of service until it is safe to operate.
- Use the seatbelt at all times.
- Stop at all blind corners to check for other traffic.
- Always keep arms and legs inside the vehicle.
- Face the direction of travel, concentrate on what you are doing, and never travel forward with a load blocking your view.
- Be aware of overhead clearances, such as pipes, sprinklers, doors, and light fixtures.
- Know the forklift's rated load capacity.
- Make sure the load is balanced and secure.
- Lift or lower the load only when completely stopped, never when traveling.
- Never leave an operating forklift unattended.

For more information or any forklift-related questions, please contact David Templeman, Director, Environmental Health and Safety, at David.Templeman@cbs.com.

Additional Forklift Safety Tips

In addition to the operators, forklifts can be dangerous to employees working and walking in their vicinity. Nearly 20% of forklift accidents involve pedestrians.

Here are a number of safety concerns to keep in mind if you encounter forklifts in the workplace:

- Never attempt to operate a forklift without the proper training.
- Never walk underneath a raised load on a forklift.
- Never ride as a passenger on a forklift unless there's an extra seat.
- Never stand on the forks and allow yourself to be elevated to do overhead work.
- Use marked pedestrian lanes and crossings if they are available.
- Pay attention to your surroundings, not your cell phone, papers/documents, or other electronic devices.