

Safety Facts: Pedestrian Safety*

Pallet jacks, scissor lifts, aerial lift platforms, forklifts, and other equipment are used in manufacturing. Safe use of this equipment includes pedestrian safety. Workers are at risk when they are near mobile equipment. Operators and pedestrians need to be aware of hazards and safety tips when working near mobile equipment.

Why is it important?

When we work around mobile equipment it is easy to become complacent with safety precautions. The environment is also a factor:

- Is it noisy?
- Can you hear equipment alarms?

A mobile equipment pedestrian safety policy helps reduce the risk of incidents through controls. This ensures the safety of the operator and the pedestrian.

Pedestrian hazards

Common hazards for mobile equipment:

- Pedestrian or operator did not see – blind spots, restricted visibility
- Pedestrian did not hear – noisy work area, quiet mobile equipment such as electric forklift
- Proximity to equipment – falling loads, wide swings
- Mobile equipment cannot brake quickly

Preventative next steps

Operators:

- Drive the speed limit
- Slow down at intersections, corners, and ramps
- Make use of convex mirrors to check for traffic
- Sound your horn in blind spots
- Be mindful of wet and slippery surfaces
- Give pedestrians the right of way
- Stop at all stop signs
- Conduct pre-use checks on equipment daily to ensure all safety devices are working

Pedestrians:

- Make eye contact with the operator to ensure they see you
- Give operators space and keep a safe distance from the forklift
- Pay attention
- Do not just assume the operator knows that you are there
- Never walk under the raised forks of a forklift
- Exercise extreme caution at blind corners, doorways, or other trouble spots – use mirrors

- Even if you have the right of way on a pedestrian path, be prepared to yield. Do not assume that an encroaching equipment operator can see you, or that the machine will be able to stop in time

Employer:

- Develop a traffic management plan to include dedicated pedestrian walkways, speed limits
- Provide safety equipment:
 - » equipment backup warning indicators
 - » proximity alert sensors
 - » rear view mirrors
 - » flashing lights
 - » convex mirrors for blind corners and intersections
 - » high-visibility clothing
- Training for operators, pedestrians, and visitors
- Adequate lighting
- Preventative maintenance program on all your mobile equipment to ensure all safety devices are working



For additional resources visit:

Manufacturing Safety Alliance of BC: safetyalliancebc.ca

Pedestrian Safety Toolbox Talk

Name of Facilitator: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Safety Specific Training Requirements: Identified Hazards/concerns

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Employee feedback/questions/recommendations

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Workers who attended

| Name | Initial | Name | Initial |
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Key Talking Points
