

Fall, 2017

Edited by Bruce Hulberg

## Forklift Safety: Newsletter



**Safety and Rescue Training**

for high-hazard work activities

**Confined Space  
Fall Protection  
Excavation  
Forklift**

### Forklift Train the Trainer Schedule

**February 20 - Eugene  
May 8 - Medford  
May 22 - Boardman  
October 16 - Eugene**

Register online at:  
[www.d2000safety.com](http://www.d2000safety.com)  
or email:  
[bhulberg@d2000safety.com](mailto:bhulberg@d2000safety.com)

**Have a forklift safety story or photo to share?**

Please send it to Bruce at:

[bhulberg@d2000safety.com](mailto:bhulberg@d2000safety.com)

We will not publish company or individual's names. You can also contact Bruce to be added to our newsletter email.

Our programs reflect:

**ANSI/ASSE Z490.1-2009 Criteria for Accepted Practices in Safety, Health, and Environmental Training**

## Ready For Winter Driving Conditions?

With winter rapidly approaching it is time to think about how changes in weather, etc. can impact the safe operation of forklifts in three key areas.

### Visibility

Along with winter comes a shorter amount of daylight, an increase in fog, rain, hail, snow, mud, and ice, which can impact visibility.

#### Recommendations:

- Inspect your facility for adequate lighting.
- Ensure forklift lights and wipers are fully functional. Remove ice and mud from windshield before operation.
- Wear appropriate clothing (rain gear, warm clothing, gloves, hats; no hoodies which can restrict visibility). When operators are cold they may be distracted from the safe operation of their forklift.
- Since visibility may be restricted encourage pedestrians working in forklift areas to wear high visibility clothing.



### Maneuverability

Changes to the operating surface (caused by rain, snow, hail, ice) can reduce the maneuverability of forklifts.

#### Recommendations:

- Be extremely cautious in areas near doorways into buildings which often become wet or icy due to forklift traffic, as well as slopes.
- Slow down when your stopping distance increases. Increase your following distance; consider traction devices such as chains for outdoor driving as necessary.
- Use some type of ice melt in icy areas.



### Transporting/Stacking/Unstacking Loads

Ice or snow on your forks, on dunnage, or on the bottom of your load may cause your load to shift on your forks.

#### Recommendations:

- Allow your hydraulics to warm up to improve their functionality.
- Clean any snow off your forks before picking up a load.
- Reduce your speed when transporting loads, especially when cornering.
- Don't tilt forward when stacking until the load is almost in position.
- Beware of icy truck beds which may cause loads to slide off.

