



December, 2014

Edited by Bruce Hulberg

## Forklift Safety: Newsletter

### Forklifts and Fires

Do forklifts pose a fire hazard? Absolutely. And are all your forklifts equipped with fire extinguishers? Hopefully.

*Let's review some of the main ways that your forklift can create a fire hazard.*

- ◆ Oil and fuel leaks are an obvious fire issue and should be identified during inspections and repaired immediately.
- ◆ Refueling areas pose hazards. There should be no smoking or ignition sources within 25 feet of refueling areas. Propane refueling stations must be equipped with break away protection. Battery charging areas should be well ventilated to disperse hydrogen gas.
- ◆ Facilities with actual or potential flammable atmospheres are required to use forklifts with specific safety features on the engine. (Refer to OSHA's Powered Industrial Truck regulations for further information.)
- ◆ Flammable dusts will settle in the engine compartment, most commonly around the exhaust manifold. Address this by setting up an engine blowdown schedule.
- ◆ Contact with overhead electrical conductors is another way to ignite combustibles. If this is a possibility, make sure the hazards are posted and operators trained.



### Safety and Rescue Training

for high-hazard work activities

### Confined Space Fall Protection Excavation **Forklift**

### Forklift Train the Trainer Schedule

January 20 - Eugene

January 27 - Bend

April 14 - Boardman

April 28 - Salem

May 19 - Medford

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 Criteria for Accepted Practices in Safety, Health, and Environmental Training**

