

February, 2014

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**

**March 11 - Portland
March 26 - Roseburg
April 22 - Eugene
April 29 -Salem
May 6 - Bend
May 8 - Pendleton**

Register online at:

www.d2000safety.com

or email:

bhulberg@d2000safety.com

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

Please send it to Bruce at:

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*

Why read the forklift operator manual?

The operator manual is one of the most important training tools available to forklift operators. Why? Because it contains vital information on the safe operation of the forklift and for the prevention of damage to the forklift.

Although OSHA regulations don't specifically require that an operator manual be located on the forklift they are often found in a compartment on the back side of the seat. It is a best practice to have them readily available for use by the operator. When a yellow light suddenly appears on the dash the operator may need to refer to the manual to identify what the symbol means. Continuing to operate the forklift with the light on might damage the engine.

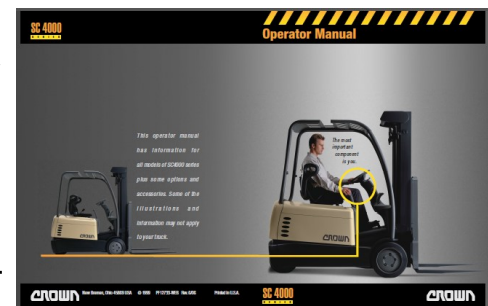
With continuing advancements in electronics and mechanics the operator manual provides information on such things as the operator controls/gauges, operating procedures, inspection procedures, etc. If the forklift operator doesn't understand how such things as the Monotrol pedal or automatic transmission functions, for example, the operator is more likely to cause damage to the forklift.

In addition, OSHA requires training operators on "Any other operating instructions, warnings, or precautions listed in the operator's manual for the types of vehicle that the employee is being trained to operate". Without the use of the operator manual this would be difficult to comply with.

Companies invest a considerable amount of money on forklifts with the expectation that forklift operators will take care of them. To help them meet that expectation and to reduce the potential for accidents it is imperative that forklift operators are trained on the contents of the operator manual.

Recommendations:

- 1) Ensure operator manuals are readily available.
- 2) Use the operator manual during your forklift training.



What does that yellow light on the dash mean?

