

March, 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*

Who has right of way - pedestrian or forklift?

Many people feel that pedestrians have right of way since they would, most likely, suffer severe injury if there was a collision. But if pedestrians have right of way does that mean they can step out in front of a loaded, moving forklift and expect that the forklift operator will be able to stop in time just because they have right of way? Doesn't make much sense does it.



What is your policy?

Our streets have sidewalks with stop signs and signals to regulate vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrian traffic. So it makes sense that there should be guidelines to regulate pedestrian and forklift traffic. The fact is that pedestrians and forklifts often share the same work area. And as such they need to be respectful of each other.

OSHA doesn't specify who has right of way. It is the responsibility of the company to establish company rules that protect both the pedestrian and forklift operator.

Ways to improve pedestrian and forklift safety:

- Train forklift operators **AND** pedestrians on your companies right of way rules.
- Create pedestrian walkways or other means to separate pedestrians and forklifts when possible.
- Rather than merely requiring eye contact between forklift operator and pedestrian, the pedestrian should wait until the forklift operator gestures for the pedestrian to pass by. That way nobody will say "I thought you saw me!"
- Create workplace stacking rules. For example, where can you stack product, how high, how close to work stations and pedestrian walkways, etc.
- Ensure that all forklift operators are fully trained and certified to operate the type of forklift they are using.
- Require pedestrians to wear safety vests in high hazard areas and maintain a safe distance away from forklifts of at least 6 feet.
- Train pedestrians on forklift visibility issues.

