

September, 2015

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

October 6 - Eugene
November 3 - Salem
April 12 - Boardman
April 19 - Eugene

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*

Contractors Using Your Forklifts? Four Things to Consider

It's not uncommon for contractors to use the host company's forklifts. But is this a good practice? Before you decide answer these four questions.

1. Will the contractor be using the equipment in areas where your employees will be working?

We all know that the activities of one crew can pose hazards for others. If they are working together, does the contractor follow the same forklift rules of the road that your employees follow? If not, there could be a greater chance of a mishap. It is the host employer's responsibility to verify that the contractor's employees are trained to your location's policies before they are permitted to operate your forklifts.



2. Are the contractors' employees trained to operate your specific type of forklifts?

Employees are required to be trained and certified on the type of forklifts they will operate in the workplace. So, an employee who is trained to operate a sit-down counterbalanced lift truck may be an accident waiting to happen if they are asked to operate a telehandler.

Even two models of forklifts which appear to be very similar may have important differences which, if ignored, can result in accidents. A best practice is to provide a brief orientation session for the operators on the exact type of forklift they will be using.

3. Who is responsible to train the contractors' employees?

Simply put, the contractor. But since there can be important differences in each employer's policies and procedures, the host employer should provide the contractor with site-specific information on hazards, speed limits, operating surfaces, stacking guidelines, refueling procedures, and any other information which is not common to all types of forklifts.

4. What does your insurance policy cover?

Check with your insurance carrier to see what they will and will not cover. Your carrier may be able to extend your policy to cover contractors, but don't assume that they are currently covered.

