

UTP Productions, PO Box 3778, Salt Lake City, UT 84110
E-mail Julie@utpgroup.com Phone number 801-328-1298

Driver-operated Lift Equipment: Preventing Injuries and Damage from the Operator's POV:

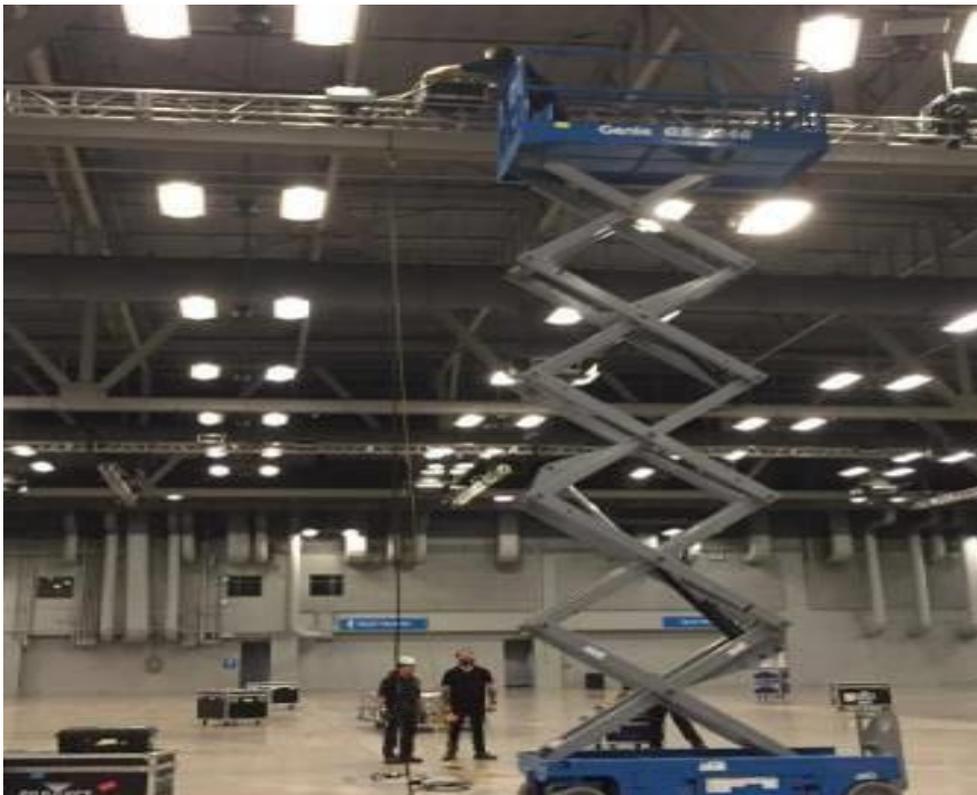
Hello everyone,

As some know from experience, our Worker Compensation Fund provider routinely hires professional safety personnel to selectively visit UTP job site operations and return a summary of observations to UTP and the provider. In the event an observed condition is potentially dangerous enough to be identified as a Recommendation, UTP is compelled to respond in writing with effective remedies, so far as we can. Raising awareness through Safety Spot and the "Zero" platform are primary tools for ensuring that corrective information and awareness are communicated to UTP's employees and job sites.

So before taking up lift equipment operator safety in general, thanks for giving special attention as you consider this Loss Control Recommendation and picture as we received it in late October:

"2019-10-01: Fall Protection-Employee Lifts

Provide personal fall protection equipment (full body harness and lanyard) to employees utilizing powered lifts to access heights above six feet. 100% fall protection is recommended; it is essential for employees to tie off to an adjacent structure that will withstand the arresting force should they fall. Train and document all employees in procedures and use of equipment.



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Everything necessary to be communicated is included, with some additional ideas for administrators to help ensure that a similar scenario doesn't happen again:

- Make sure your organization's lift equipment certifications, instructions and qualifications are reviewed and renewed at least annually, and that the training includes OSHA lift operator fall protection equipment requirements.
- Consider the requirement that a PFPE setup always "goes up" with a manlift, just in case.
- Remind and insist that your lift operators never leave the platform to stand on or crossover a platform's railing without a compliantly fitted, protected and anchored PFPE system in place.
- Stress that if it's a question of standing on or climbing over an elevated platform railing to reach a point or moving the lift, always, always move the lift.

By introducing situations that require the operator's ability to anticipate while commanding any manlift lift or transport equipment, awareness can be raised regardless of the class or type of any of the equipment usually encountered in our space; e.g. snorkel, fork and scissor lifts, and even Cushman cart operations are safer when the operator has the broadest view of what can happen, whether the condition is immediately relevant or not.

Statistically, the topics under which injuries and damages involving operator error include.

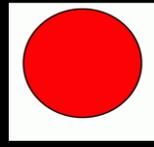
- Attachments
- Pedestrians
- Work environment
- Loads

Attachments

Carton clamps, drum clamps, paper-roll clamps, rotators, *fork extenders*, *rolled carpet prongs*, and push-pull elements can affect the capacity and handling of a forklift in unanticipated ways: When using attachments, always begin slow to get the feel of your load, and know that

- Attachments can change operating clearances by extending the length and width of the forklift.
- Attachments change the capacity of the forklift by adding weight. For example, if the attachment weighs 1,000 pounds, the capacity of the load you can carry is reduced by 1,000 pounds.
- Attachments usually change the familiar stability and center of gravity of the forklift. For example, if an attachment moves the load away from the vertical face of the forks that will reduce the maximum load the forklift can carry.

Important safety bonus: Always know that using any part of any lift equipment to raise, travel or force the direction of anything outside its specified purposes compromises operational safety and questions liability should the result be injury or damage. When in doubt, don't!



Pedestrians

Most injurious “operator error” lift equipment accidents involving pedestrians can be attributed to:

- Obstructed view—the operator cannot see the pedestrian because of a load or an obstruction in the path, and
- Failure to insist on a pedestrian “spotter” for loads the operator can’t adequately see over or around.
- Turning the forklift or swinging a snorkel basket toward a pedestrian who is in a vulnerable position.
- Speeding, usually when a forklift can't stop in time to avoid the pedestrian
- Being unaware of pedestrians or other persons in the areas around, above and below the operating lift equipment.
- Carrying passengers on the forklift, or riders on any equipment who are not contained, grounded and braced within the platform’s railing.
- Failing to use warning beeps in advance of blind corners or crosswalks, or non-functioning “automatic” reverse gear warning sound or beacon devices.
- An operator’s failure to maintain 360 degrees of acute situational awareness at all times.

Work Environment

Potential lift equipment hazards are caused by the conditions present in lift equipment environments that operators should be aware of include:

- Combustion engine exhaust accumulation in poorly ventilated areas,
- Unlevel or other driving surface anomalies that can increase the chance of lift equipment-instability and tipping, resulting in lost control of the equipment or the load.
- Operating, accelerating, turning or braking lift equipment on slippery, or liquid-wet surfaces.
- Operating on dirt and gravel
- Poor lighting

Other potential hazards which qualified lift operators must be able to knowledgeably anticipate and avoid include

- Pits or openings in the floor,
- Congested or narrow workspaces
- Ramps and any “other than level” travel lane.
- Dock, semitrailer and any other unbounded threshold.

The presence and location of any flammable or combustible material in the workplace.

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Loads

Load-carrying hazards that can be anticipated and knowledgeably avoided with operator proficiency, anticipation and awareness include:

- Unstable or “off center” loads.
- Hazardous material loads, with special attention to conservative operation and an eye for leaks and damage.
- Traveling loads that are too heavy, extended to far, or carried too high for adequate steering or control
- Traveling visually obstructive loads without a spotter who can see and safely direct the direction load where the operator cannot.
- Maneuvering around loading docks and storing and retrieving empty cases.
- The lack of the operator’s consistent vigilance and awareness of the dimensions, characteristics and the possible effects of his load at all times.
- Raising, lowering or manipulating any load that involves assistance by pedestrian handlers.

That does it for this one, thanks to everyone for helping ensure the goal of “zero” incidents or injuries involving driver operated lift equipment, and for UTP’s lift operators reminding themselves and each other to remain practiced, certified, aware and in positive command of their equipment at all times.

For Safety,

Ladd Anderson



Director of Risk Management
801-824-6985
Ladd357@gmail.com

Proper personal protective equipment **MUST** be used on the job. As part of your toolbox you will need to purchase if you don’t already have them: Mechanic style gloves, steel toed shoes, yellow safety vest and a hard hat.

With so much going on around you it is imperative that you take as many precautions that you can to keep your body safe and accident free.

Links for discounted steel toes shoes can be found on our website at utpproductions.com. You will also find links as examples of the other equipment and where you can purchase it (links below).

A Tale of our accidents

The following is a list of incidents and accidents that have occurred since our last newsletter.

Arizona: *Gammage Theater* - Employee was working backstage carrying some wardrobe and hard hats. It was higher than her line of sight and someone had put a low bedframe in front of the door she was going towards. She tripped and hit her head, knees, shins, and arms. This fall caused a concussion.

Gammage Theater #2 - Employee was walking down a ramp with a dolly full of totes and lost control of the dolly and the totes fell crushing his foot.

Utah: *Vivint Arena* - While loading sound equipment on the arena floor, they had to install a subwoofer system under the stage. While laying on his side and trying to complete the job he immediately had terrible pain to his lower left abdomen with a bulge. Employee will require surgery.

Vivint Arena #2 - While working with decking dust flew up and employee ended up with 2 splinters in their eye.

Georgia: *Americas Mart* - Employee was trying to throw things away off the dock. He fell and hit the ground causing a strain and contusion of the front thorax wall and neck strain.

Americas Mart #2 - Employee was in a lift with the other employee operating it. He had his hand on the side rail and it got caught between the rail and the truss.

Alabama: *Von Braun Center* - While walking across the ice rink her foot slipped out from under her tearing ligaments and breaking the knee bone that requires surgery.

Virginia: *University of Virginia* - While using a power pallet mover the employee hit the incorrect button and it came backwards over their foot instead of moving forward.

A Tale of our accidents - Continued

Texas: Austin Conv Ctr. - While lifting large lights they were heavier than they were expecting, and he strained his right wrist while trying to handle the weight above his head.

Florida: Addition Arena - While lifting one-ton motors from their boxes he heard a couple pops in his back and immediately was in severe pain. Employee will require disk surgery.

<https://www.skechers.com/direct/utp>



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