

# Forklift Safety

## Manufacturing

*Each year, over 100 employees die in forklift accidents. Many employees become injured when lift trucks are inadvertently driven off loading docks, when lifts fall between docks and an unsecured trailer and more. Please review the following safety tips with your employees.*

### Tool Box Tips

- Forklift operators must be trained, evaluated and certified. Frequent training refreshers are recommended.
- Forklifts must be inspected for hazards at the beginning of each workday or shift.
- Forklift inspections are vital—an inspection could turn up a hazard that could result in injury.
- Check these items:
  - Tire condition
  - Fork and mast controls
  - Brake controls
  - Steering controls
  - Warning equipment
  - Seat belt
- Know the lifting capacity of each forklift.
- Never lift weight greater than 90 percent of the forklift lifting capacity.
- Do not operate faster than the walking speed.
- Forklift operators must wear the safety belt when using a forklift.
- Never lift another employee on the forks.
- Never allow riders.
- Never overload forklifts.

*These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.*