

# TOOL BOX TALKS

## Pallet Racking Safety

### Manufacturing

*Pallet racking is among the most commonly used means of storage. There are numerous styles and types of pallet racking in the market today and it's essential that the appropriate pallet racking is chosen to match the operation. Proper forklift training and reinforcing safe operation will help reduce major damage to racks. Please review the following safety tips with your employees.*

#### Toolbox Tips

1. Know pallet racking capacities for both the “pod” and shelf cross beams.
2. Never overload pallet racking.
3. Report damaged pallet racking cross beams and uprights.
4. Do not attempt to fix or straighten damaged pallet racking components.
5. Rack components with major dents or bends should be removed from service.
6. Dents, bent components and other damage can reduce the racking capacity.
7. Never climb pallet racking.
8. Never stand on pallet racking shelves.
9. Do not allow employees to work in pallet racking pods—stay out from beneath.
10. Inspect pallet racking often for falling object hazards.
11. Report falling object hazards to the supervisor immediately.
12. Never use plywood as a shelf in pallet racking—it can transfer fire laterally through the rack.
13. Bolt pallet rack uprights to the floor. Protect pallet rack uprights from damage.
14. When using a ladder to access materials stored in pallet racking, consider tting the ladder off.
15. When working in an outdoors environment, use racking that is designed for outdoor use.
16. Inspect outdoor pallet racking often for rust, corrosion and a stable base.
17. When loading pallet racking, beware of the sprinkler heads that be within the rack.

**Inspect pallet racking often for falling object hazards.**

*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.*

#### For more information:



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