

Toolbox

Safety Series



POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS VS. PEDESTRIANS

As an operator of a powered industrial truck, you must safeguard other employees at all times. This rule is no different than what is required of you as a safe driver when you are operating your own car. Pedestrians, whether walking down a plant aisle or roadway, are no match against moving steel.

Your fellow employees are probably much more aware of the dangers involved in being hit by a car as it drives past them than they are of the dangers of being hit or crushed by a powered industrial truck at work. Always be sure there is enough clearance in an aisle when a pedestrian steps to the side for you to drive by.

Let's go over a few rules that can help you do the job a little better:

- Travel at a safe speed, suitable to the surroundings and the type of load you are carrying. Don't become a race driver. Take your time and drive safely.
- On slippery or wet floors, drive at a slow speed. Conditions determine the speed that you should travel.
- Slow down and sound your horn at cross aisles and other locations where your vision is blocked. Let others know you are coming.
- When loads block your forward vision, drive the truck with the load trailing. You're headed for an accident if you can't see where you are going.
- Watch for pedestrians – sound your horn to warn them that you are approaching. Don't sneak up and scare them. They may jump into your path.
- Look behind you before backing up. Something or someone may have moved since you last looked.
- Treat blind corners and doorways as "Stop Signs". Running these stop signs is just as much a hazard as doing it on a city street.
- Stunt driving and horseplay should never be permitted.

If we all follow these safety rules, we should be able to avoid accidents and protect fellow employees. Safety responsibility belongs to everyone. By being a safe powered industrial truck driver, you are doing your part to make this a safe place to work.

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LEADER NOTES

Objective: To reinforce the concepts of safe powered industrial truck operation and the need for pedestrian safety.

Potential Injuries: Minor injuries such as cuts and scrapes to severe injuries such as disabilities or fatalities.

THE TALK - POINTS TO COVER

- As an operator of a powered industrial truck, you must safeguard other employees at all times.
- Always be sure there is enough clearance in an aisle when a pedestrian steps to the side for you to drive by.
- Let's go over a few rules that can help you do the job a little better.
 - Travel at a safe speed, suitable to the surroundings and the type of load you are carrying.
 - Don't become a race driver down aisles or elsewhere.
 - Take your time and drive safely.
 - Conditions determine the speed that you should go.
 - Slow down and sound your horn at cross aisles, let others know you are coming.
 - When loads block your forward vision, drive the truck with the load trailing.
 - Watch for pedestrians – sound your horn to warn them that you are approaching.
 - Look behind you before backing up.
 - Treat blind corners and doorways as "Stop Signs".
 - Stunt driving and horseplay are never permitted.

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Location: _____
 Date: _____ Time: _____
 Number of employees: _____ Number attending: _____

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:

Other safety issues or suggestions made by employees:

Manager's remarks: _____

Manager: _____
(Signature)

Supervisor: _____
(Signature)