

ELOKON

MHE AND INDUSTRY

SAFETY CHECKLIST

PART 4: FORKLIFT-SPECIFIC



The Ultimate Checklist

TO ENSURE WAREHOUSE, AUTOMATION AND MACHINERY SAFETY

The rate of injuries and fatalities in warehouses is higher than average compared to other industry sectors in the UK according to the FLTA – the Forklift Lift Truck Association. The unsafe use of forklifts is a major cause of accidents, and 57% of these involve incidents that occur between trucks and pedestrians.

Recently collated statistics show that almost one third (32.2 %) of EU fatal accidents at work were the result of losing control of a machine, tool or transport/handling equipment. Furthermore almost one third (31.6 %) of all non-fatal occupational accidents in the EU took place on industrial sites.

Most of these accidents are however entirely avoidable if one is aware of the risks and how to minimise them. So what can you do to reduce the risk of accidents and injuries in your warehouse and plants? And, especially, how can you enhance safety around forklift trucks?

ELOKON, a global leader in automated forklift safety technology, has compiled this comprehensive Warehouse and Plants Safety Checklist, based on guidelines by various bodies such as the FLTA, the HSE (Health and Safety Executive), the British Safety Council and other organisations.

There are five sections:

OVERALL WAREHOUSE SAFETY

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

GENERAL MATERIALS HANDLING SAFETY

FORKLIFT-SPECIFIC SAFETY

MACHINERY SAFETY

We hope that reviewing these key points will help you make your warehouse or plant a safer workplace.

For more information on ELOKON's safety technology, please visit <https://www.elokon.com/en-EN/>.



MATERIALS HANDLING SAFETY CHECKLIST

01 According to the HSE Document L117 – which contains the Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) for rider operated lift trucks, the law requires work equipment such as forklift trucks to be suitable and safe for the way it is intended to be used. Machinery manufacturers also have a legal duty to reduce risks on new machinery by ensuring it is designed and constructed to be safe. The features of lift trucks are outlined in paragraphs 98-118. Link: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pUbns/priced/l117.pdf>



02 Ensure any modifications to industrial trucks that might affect their capacity or safe operation have the truck manufacturer's written approval.



03 Ensure that the nameplates and markings required on industrial trucks (including specifications and capacity) are legible and properly placed.



04 Ensure that industrial trucks that handle hazardous materials are properly approved and marked for such use.



DRIVER / OPERATOR TRAINING

05 The ACOP advises on the basic training of lift-truck operators. To comply with duties under regulation 9 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER) and general duties under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, employers must ensure that all operators, both new and existing, are adequately trained and provide additional or refresher training.



MATERIALS HANDLING SAFETY CHECKLIST

06

Ensure that all industrial truck operators are properly trained, and that only authorised operators have access to industrial trucks. Training will include the following:

- Understanding site-specific hazards (e.g., low doorways, slippery surfaces, intersections, and pedestrian traffic areas).
- Using a seatbelt.
- Understanding capacity ratings, center of gravity (as affected by lift height, gradients, and cornering speeds), fork load stability, and rules for lifting / dropping / stacking loads.
- Obeying traffic regulations, including speed limits, maintaining clear view of travel path, slowing at aisle intersections, sounding horn while cornering, etc.
- Maintaining safe distance from edges of ramps, platforms, docks, truck beds, etc.
- Maintaining sufficient headroom above raised forks / loads (e.g., under overhead lights, pipes, and sprinklers).
- Leaving a lift truck unattended **ONLY** after the forks are down, controls neutralised, power shut off, and brakes set.
- Prohibiting any “stunt driving.”



07

Implement policies, procedures, and discipline processes for operators who have accidents and/or near misses.



08

Implement policies and procedures for safely refueling diesel and LPG industrial trucks. Only refuel when the engine is switched off, and care should be taken when handling LPG cylinders.



09

Implement policies and procedures for safely charging batteries for electric industrial trucks. Charging should only be carried out in designated areas where appropriate safety measures have been implemented (e.g: with adequate ventilation, fire prevention).



10

Implement policies and procedures for maintaining and repairing industrial trucks, including cleaning vehicles, replacing worn tyres, using only parts that meet the safety specifications of the original truck design, and taking trucks out of service for unsafe conditions.





ELOKON. **LEAD WITH SAFETY.**

ELOKON GmbH
 Quayside Tower 2nd Floor, Broad Street,
 Birmingham, B1 2HF West Midlands / UK
 T. +44 121 3922-499 E. info@elokon.co.uk

ELOKON GmbH
 Gärtnerweg 49
 25436 Tornesch / GERMANY
 T. +49 4122 9570-0 E. info@elokon.com

ELOKON Inc.
 5126 South Royal Atlanta Drive
 Tucker, GA 30084 / USA
 T. +1 770 349-6335 E. info@elokon.com

ELOKON Logistics Sp. z o.o.
 ul. Tytoniowa 22
 04-228 Warszawa / POLAND
 T. +48 228 127138 E. logistyka@elokon.pl

ELOKON
 www.elokon.com



Connect with us:  

OVERALL WAREHOUSE

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

MATERIALS HANDLING

FORKLIFT

MACHINERY SAFETY