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Causes of Forklift Fatalities

- ❖ Overturning - 42%
- ❖ Pinned between forklift and surface - 25%
- ❖ Crushed between two forklifts - 11%
- ❖ Struck or run over by a forklift - 10%
- ❖ Collision with forklift causing worker to be struck by falling material - 8%
- ❖ Fall from the forklift - 4%



The Urgent Care would like to extend to all your employees a Happy Cinco De Mayo on the 5th, a Happy Mother's Day to all the mums on the 12th, and we share with you in remembering those who died while serving our country on Memorial Day, the 27th.

Ladder Safety

In 2023, the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons reported that 500,000 people were treated for ladder-related injuries, with 300 of these incidents proving fatal. Overall, OSHA issued 2,978 violations related to improper ladder use. Here are some tips to keep in mind;

- **Choosing your ladder** - One of the most common mistakes made by ladder users is choosing the wrong ladder for the job. Some things to consider include the work environment (e.g., the work surface, potential sources of electricity, and climbing obstructions); appropriate ladder length; and the total amount of weight the ladder will support (AKA Duty Rating).
- **Safety before taking the 1st step** - before using the ladder, thoroughly inspect it to ensure it's in good working condition including rails, steps and rungs, and locks and spreader braces. Ladder feet and climbing and gripper surfaces should be cleaned. Always read the safety information label(s) on the ladder!
- **Safety while climbing** -Practice safe climbing by being attentive to what you are doing and your surroundings, and climb slowly and deliberately while avoiding sudden movements. Use towlines, a tool belt, or an assistant to convey materials so that your hands are free when climbing. Never attempt to move a ladder while standing on it!
- **Safety at the top** - While working on the ladder, don't stand on the top step or top cap. If you need to, you're probably using the wrong size ladder! Maintain three points of contact with the ladder and don't overreach. Always keep the center of your stomach between the ladder side rails.

5 Warehouse Safety Statistics

1. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of warehouse employees has doubled in the last ten years, from 645,200 in 2010 to 1,304,900 in 2020. Rising demand has prompted employers to expand their production and storage capacities, making following OSHA guidelines even more critical and challenging in managing the expanding workforce.
2. The average rate of injuries in warehousing declined slightly from 5.1 per 100 full-time employees to 4.8. While the injuries decreased, the number of fatalities, despite the annual growth in warehouses and workers, has remained relatively stable, consistently below 30 since 2013, reaching a low of 11 in 2015.
3. Injuries cost more than \$84 Million per week in the U.S. These costs include direct and indirect expenses such as medical treatments, property damage, loss of time and training replacement staff.
4. While pallet rack failures can result from various factors such as overload, inadequate maintenance, forklift collisions are responsible for 90% of pallet rack failures.
5. Forklift accidents are the primary cause of fatal incidents in a warehouse. OSHA estimates that implementing wider aisles, safer speeds, protective guards and proper training can reduce approximately 70% of forklift accidents in the United States.



Parking Lot Safety Tips that Employees Can Practice

- ❖ Park near highly visible and well-lit areas.
- ❖ Always lock valuables in the trunk if you have to leave them in a car.
- ❖ Roll up the windows and lock the doors once you exit the vehicle.
- ❖ Park properly within the lines and in one spot so as not to potentially anger another person.
- ❖ Be aware of parking lot areas that need repair or weather conditions that could cause you to trip or slip.
- ❖ Walk in designated areas/crosswalks for pedestrians.
- ❖ The rules of the road apply in parking lots, follow posted speed limits, stop at stop signs, give pedestrians the right of way.

Parking Lot Safety

According to OSHA, companies are required to maintain a safe work environment for employees and visitors, which also includes the employee parking lot. Employee parking lot safety is essential for companies to extend the safety of their work environment beyond the office building. Not only will you prevent injuries, but you will also improve the quality of your workplace. There are a number of measures employers can implement to mitigate those risks.

- ◆ Keep walking surfaces free of tripping hazards. Trips due to parking curbs are a frequent cause of injury. Make sure walkways, paths and other walking surfaces are clear of holes, poles, rocks or debris that could contribute to a slip and fall. Curbs and sidewalk joints should be even. Sidewalk ends, curbs and level changes should be visually conspicuous, such as marking with yellow safety paint.
- ◆ Install and maintain handrails. Handrails or guardrails should be present at level changes and for stairs and ramps. Make sure they are stable, securely fastened and at the appropriate height to be useful for pedestrians. Highlighting the edge of each step can provide a cue to a change in elevation.
- ◆ Maintain proper drainage. Standing water or ice can lead to slips, trips and falls. Make sure that water drains away from pedestrian areas, that storm drains are properly cleaned out and that there is no standing water in parking lots and walkways. Drain grates should contrast with the parking surface area.
- ◆ Install clear signage. Clearly mark entrances, exits, pedestrian crosswalks and parking areas. Landscaping and signs should not block driver visibility. If you have a shuttle bus, make sure pickup and drop-off areas are clearly marked.
- ◆ Maintain premises security. Make sure vehicles are parked in well-lit areas. Exterior lighting should be adequate for nighttime use. Access to the parking area should be secure. Security controls may include patrols by law enforcement or a paid service, access control technology and escorts.
- ◆ Create a regular maintenance program. This can help quickly identify potentially dangerous conditions, such as potholes, cracks and depressions, before they become a safety issue. A preventive schedule for light bulb replacement can help keep areas consistently well-lit. Immediately replace bulbs that burn out before their scheduled replacement time. Budget for periodic repaving and other necessary repairs to keep the parking area in a safe condition.

Enable employees to report conditions in the parking lot that feel unsafe or dangerous to management. Responding quickly and appropriately to reports of unsafe conditions can help keep the parking lot safe for employees and visitors, and can help keep your business running smoothly.



Ultimately, it's up to each of us to follow the guidelines and practice safety!