

Safe Operating Practices - Forklift

We are committed to safe operations within the depot. This applies especially to the operation of forklifts. Please observe the following guidelines.

Safe Driving Practice

- Be observant and keep alert.
- Do not drive across an incline and drive only on hard surfaces.
- Do not operate internal combustion engine in enclosed spaces where there is a danger from exhaust fumes.
- Do not operate in close proximity (1.5 metres) of electrical conductors. High voltage service lines leading to the depot can be especially dangerous.
- Never lift people unless an approved attachment (work platform) is utilised. Ensure that safety pins are secured before utilising the work platforms; also ensure that the marked safe working load is not exceeded.

Look - Do not Guess when driving a forklift!

- Before and when reversing, look in the direction of travel.
- Always check that overhead clearance is sufficient.
- Go slowly when reversing down ramps. Driving fast down inclines is dangerous.
- When approaching corners, slow down and sound the horn. Stop on blind corners.
- Drive with the tines as low as possible (ie. at or below axel height).
- Do not travel at excessive speeds. - Speed kills! When operating within premises or in confined and/or busy areas the maximum speed will be limited to walking pace. Within the yard the maximum speed shall be a fast walking pace.
- Always give pedestrians the right of way.
- If a load blocks your view when travelling forward, travel in reverse. A guide will be used when visibility is restricted.
- Stop, start and turn gently. Avoid fast runs and jerky stops.
- Do not bring the machine to a stop in an abrupt manner. Always apply the brakes with care. It is difficult to stop quickly on wet or greasy surfaces.
- Do not leave the machine without stopping the engine, applying the handbrake and lowering the tines.
- Do not drive an unregistered forklift on a public road.
- Do not interfere in any way with the mechanism of the appliance.
- Always have consideration and show courtesy for other road users.
- Where designated walkways are defined drivers are to be aware of and look out for pedestrian traffic.