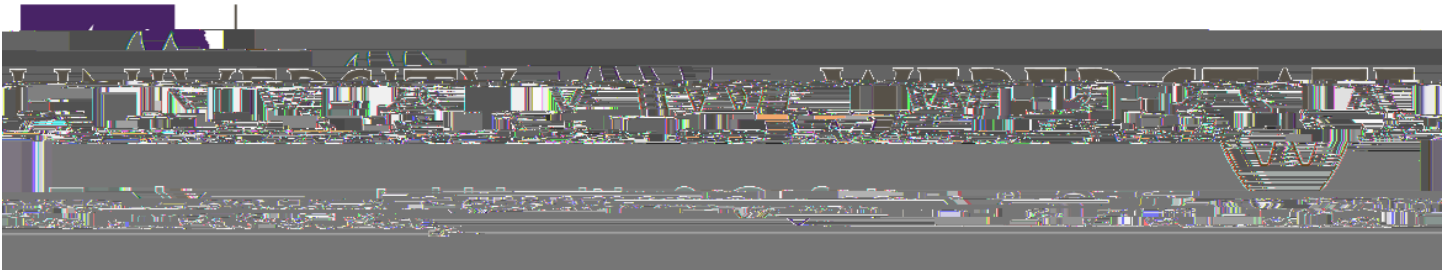


Weber State University

Powered Industrial Truck (PIT) Safety Program

29 CFR 1910.178



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Powered industrial trucks (PITs), also known as forklifts or lift trucks, are important tools in many workplaces. They perform a variety of material handling tasks and can facilitate moving, raising, lowering, or removing heavy or bulky materials or a number of smaller objects on pallets or in boxes, crates, or other containers. This makes it easier for the employee to move materials. During the movement of materials, there are numerous opportunities for injuries and property damage to occur. This program has been created to minimize the risk of injury to employees or bystanders and to avoid damage to Weber State University (WSU) property. These requirements are established under OSHA Powered Industrial Trucks, 29 CFR 1910.178.

This program applies to the operation of all PITs, motorized hand trucks, or other specialized industrial trucks by WSU employees. It may also be used as guidelines for contractors using PITs engaged in university projects.

: Any mobile power-propelled truck used to carry, push, pull, lift, stack, or tier materials. Powered industrial trucks can be ridden or controlled by an operator.

: Any WSU employee who has received the proper classroom instruction and passed a skills assessment provided by a person who has the knowledge, training, and experience to train PIT operators and evaluate their competence.

Environmental Health and Safety Office has the primary responsibility for the implementation and supervision of the Powered Industrial Truck Safety Program and is responsible for the following:

- Developing, implementing, and evaluating the Powered Industrial Truck Safety Program to ensure compliance.
- Providing initial and recurring training of operators on the safe operation of equipment.
- Maintaining the training documentation of employees who complete training sessions.

Supervisors in areas where PITs are used are responsible for providing the necessary direction and support to ensure the effective implementation of the Powered Industrial Truck Safety Program for their wq0.000ETQ(d)-3(10(wh)--3()8Se)-3(d)6tra5

- Ensuring that proper maintenance according to the manufacturers' recommendations is performed on the PIT and any hazards identified are corrected.
- Ensuring that employees comply with all OSHA regulations (29 CFR 1910.178) while operating a PIT.

All operators are responsible for the following:

- Completing the required safety training course for PITs.
- Operating all PITs in a safe manner consistent with their training.
- Inspecting PITs

- Powered industrial trucks must have a driver cage (in sit-down types) installed to protect the operator from falling materials.

Operators shall follow these PIT travel requirements:

- Safe speed limits will be observed, and the PIT will be operated at speeds that will permit it to be brought to a stop in a safe manner.
- Three truck lengths (or two seconds) will be maintained between PITs in operation. The PIT will be kept under control at all times.
- When vision is obscured, the operator will slow down and sound the horn.
- If the load blocks the operator's view, the PIT will be driven in the direction that provides the best visibility.
- The operator will keep a clear view of the path of travel.
- The loaded PIT will be driven with the load upgrade (uphill) when driving on ascending or descending grades greater than 10%.
- Dock boards and bridge plates will be properly secured before they are driven over.

Operators shall follow these PIT load securing requirements:

- Always place the load against the backrest to help stabilize the load.
- Always place the larger or heaviest part of the load closest to the backrest.
- If carrying wide loads such as lumber or steel, adjust the forks as wide as possible to support the load.
- Use shrink wrap or tape as needed to secure items stacked on pallets.
- Never have a person walk in front of the PIT to stabilize a load while the PIT is being driven.
- Check all wooden pallets for damage or defects before using them.

Operators shall follow these PIT load lifting and carrying requirements:

- Always evaluate the situation before making a lift.
- Always pick up an object with the heaviest side against the backrest
- If the load is too large to see around, always drive in reverse.
- Always carry the load as low as possible and watch out for overhead obstructions, such as but not limited to light fixtures, sprinkler heads, building support beams, etc.

Appendix A

Powered Industrial Truck Pre-Use Inspection

