Questions for a Powered Industrial Truck
Site Specific Workplace Hazard Analysis

A. Surface Conditions Where the Vehicle Will Be Operated:

Questions:

1. Percent and locations of the workplace conditions that the forklifts are expected to operate on (i.e. cement, blacktop, gravel, etc.)?
2. List the particular operating problems or hazards encountered on each surface.
3. Who is responsible for inspecting the surface conditions for cracks, holes or defects that could create forklift operating hazards? Are forklift operators required to report surface condition hazards and does management repair surface conditions in a timely manner?
4. What weather conditions pose a hazard to forklift operations? What are the special procedures in place for operating during adverse weather conditions? Salt, outdoor only and indoor only forklift operations, greater starting and stopping distances?

B. Compositions of Loads to be Carried and Load Stability:

Questions:

1. Are there typical loads that the facility handles on a routine basis? List them.
2. Are there a-typical loads that are handled? Don't forget the maintenance department. List them.
3. Can or how do you determine the load centers for the loads to be handled? How do these loads affect the truck and load stability? Remember the triangle/pyramid.

C. Load Manipulation, Stacking and Unstacking:

Questions:

1. When considering the typical loads to be handled, has the facility restricted the number of units to be handled by the various forklifts?
2. Has the facility restricted the height requirements for stacking and storage? Consider sprinkler heads (18 inches). Stored as not to create a hazard? Storage of material will be stacked, blocked or interlocked and limited in height? Stable and secured?
3. Blocked access and egress points from a building? Blocked pedestrian walkways? Designated storage locations and practices.
4. Are there loads that routinely exceed the capacity for the forklifts at the facility?
5. See the attachment for handling and manipulating loads safely. (To be developed!)

D. Pedestrian Traffic in Areas Where the Vehicle Will be Operated:

Questions:

1. Are there areas where pedestrians walk and forklifts operate? List them.
2. Has the facility designated walkways for pedestrians only?
3. If the facility has standard break and lunch times, does the forklift cease operations during those times as well?
4. Do forklift driver understand that it is considered their fault if a forklift strikes a pedestrian?

E. Narrow Aisle ways or Other Restricted Places Where the Vehicle will be operated:

Questions:

1. Are there narrow aisle ways in the facility the result is hazards for pedestrians or other operators? List them.
2. Has the facility identified the hazards associated with restricted operating environments for the forklifts and either engineered them away or developed procedures for those exposed to or creating the hazards?

F. Hazardous (Classified) Locations Where the Vehicle will be Operated:

Questions:

1. Does the facility have any hazardous classified areas as defined in 1910……?
2. If yes, have they designated the proper forklift to be exclusively operated in those defined hazardous classified areas?
3. How have these areas been effectively communicated to the forklift operators? Does documentation exist that reflects the communication of these particular hazards?
4. Has the facility developed any special procedures that address the safe operation of forklifts in hazardous classified locations?

G. Ramps and other Sloped Surfaces that Could Affect the Vehicle's Stability:

Questions:

1. Has the facility listed the locations of any ramps and other sloped surfaces and communicated the locations to the forklift operators?
2. Has the facility developed safe work practices for operating on ramps or sloped surfaces?
3. Review the attached safe work practices for operating safely on ramps or other sloped surfaces. TO BE DEVELOPED.

H. Closed Environments and Other Areas Where Insufficient Ventilation or Poor Vehicle Maintenance Could Cause a Buildup of Carbon Monoxide or Diesel Exhaust:

Questions:

1. Has the facility considered the locations of any enclosed, ill-ventilated areas that could result in CO buildup? If yes, can ventilation be installed? Can a different type (electric) of forklift be utilized in those hazardous areas?
2. Has the facility maintained vehicle according to the manufacture's recommendations especially for the exhaust system?

I. Other Unique or Potentially Hazardous Environmental Conditions in the Workplace that Could Affect Safe Operation:

Questions:

1. Develop safe procedures, and or verify specifications requirements for the following:
    a. Lifting personnel with using the forklift
    b. Overhead obstructions such as but not limited to: electrical overhead wiring or other utilities, sprinkler system pipes, entrances into trailers, elevators or other short doorways.
    c. Traveling over railroad tracks.
    d. Loading or unloading railcars, including railroad lockout procedures.