

FACT SHEET 28

OPERATOR DAILY CHECKS

Fork Lift Trucks can be very dangerous if they are not maintained properly. Whilst managers and supervisors direct activity and hold ultimate responsibility if operations go wrong, it is the operator that holds the responsibility to carry out required pre-use checks and to operate the truck in the correct and safe manner. The law requires that both employers and employees ensure that a fork lift truck, which is a place of work, is safe for use and fit for purpose.

Regulation 8 of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER 98) makes it very clear that an employer has a responsibility to ensure that all lifting operations are properly planned and supervised. Building on this, Regulation 9 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98) makes it clear that any such supervisor must be adequately trained. Furthermore Regulation 7 makes it clear that an operator should have received sufficient information, instruction and training to enable them to carry out the work safely.

Fork lift trucks are subject to statutory examination by a competent person (Thorough Examination see Fact sheet No 3). A system of routine maintenance should include crucial daily pre-use checks in order to establish if there are any faults or defects. The operator should be the first person to identify any problems and this will be part of the daily routine prior to work with a Fork Lift commencing. The FLTA “Operator Safety – Daily or Pre-shift Checks” booklet provides a thorough guide and is available to be ordered from the Association.

More detailed information is contained in the [FLTA Daily Checks booklet](#) on the FLTA website, a practical booklet with 66 pages on the essential daily checks and how they should be completed:

Title: [Operator Safety: Daily or pre-shift checks](#)

Ref: 0121A

Price: £2.50

Further information is also available in the following publications which are readily available from HSE Books. You can also contact HSE Books on 01787 881165.

Title: Safe Use of Lifting Equipment
Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998
Approved Code of Practice and Guidance
HSC Code: L113
ISBN: 0-7176-1628-2
Price: £8.00

Title: Safe Use of Work Equipment
Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998
Approved Code of Practice and Guidance
HSC Code: L22
ISBN: 0-7176-1626-6
Price: £12.00

The information in this Fact Sheet has been assembled and interpreted to give truck owners and users basic guidance on frequently asked questions. Further important information will be given in the quoted reference documents. Responsibility for meeting the safety obligations discussed rests with the employer, and the FLTA will not accept liability for any problem arising as a result of the content of this document. **Technical Bulletins, containing more detailed information and updated as appropriate, are made available free to members of the FLTA SAFE USER GROUP.**

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