

FACT SHEET 16

Overseas licences

As explained in Fact Sheet 2 there is no such thing as a fork lift truck driver's licence in the UK. It follows therefore that a fork truck licence issued in any other country cannot be valid in the UK.

Some countries do issue licences to fork lift truck operators. It is quite common for an individual from one of these countries, who is seeking employment in UK as a fork lift truck operator, to offer this licence, with an authenticated translation, as proof of their ability to operate.

Whilst there may be no reason to doubt the authenticity of such documentation, this will not meet U.K regulations and guidance and therefore a potential employer should not accept this and needs to follow the guidance for operator training as per HSE L117 ACoP

Under these circumstances treat the foreign 'licence' as though it were a training certificate from an unknown, unaccredited trainer and have the potential employee formally assessed and then provide additional training.

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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