

Case Reports

Incident	Lessons Learned
Fall from Forklift A 36-year-old electric-line technician was fatally injured after falling from and being run over by a forklift. While the operator was driving the forklift, the victim was riding on the forks. As the operator approached an intersection, he slowed down and turned his head to check for oncoming traffic. When he turned his head back, he could not see the victim. He stopped the forklift, dismounted, and found the victim underneath the right side of the forklift.	Never allow anyone to ride on your lift (unless it's designed for that purpose).
Struck by Forklift A 58-year-old lumberyard worker died from crushing injuries when a forklift struck him. The lumberyard laborer was walking from his work area to the employee lunchroom. At the same time, a co-worker was operating a forklift that was loaded with lumber. The forklift operator's field of vision was limited because he was transporting the lumber "load-forward" and the load partially obscured his view. He did not see the laborer but stopped when he felt the forklift roll over something. He exited the cab and found the laborer unresponsive, lying near the left side of the forklift. The laborer was pronounced dead at the scene. The medical examiner identified head and thoracic injuries as the cause of death.	Always watch where you are going. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drive in reverse if you cannot see over the load being carried• Safety glasses and traveling in reverse are ways to reduce chances that dusty materials will be blown into your eyes Pedestrians always have the right-of-way. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lift operators and foot traffic need to stay aware of each other
Forklift Runs into Scrap Bin A 39-year-old punch press operator died after being struck and crushed by a large metal scrap bin that had been inadvertently set in motion by a forklift. The forklift was observed traveling in reverse at a "high rate of speed" as it approached the victim's work area. Alternating skid marks were observed on the smoothly finished concrete floor. The alternating orientation of the marks on the floor suggests that they were made by the drive wheels spinning during shifting from reverse to forward.	Always drive at a safe speed. Slow down before turning or going around corners.