

FATAL

Industry: Warehouse

Age: 32

Experience: Several Years

Area: Lower Mainland

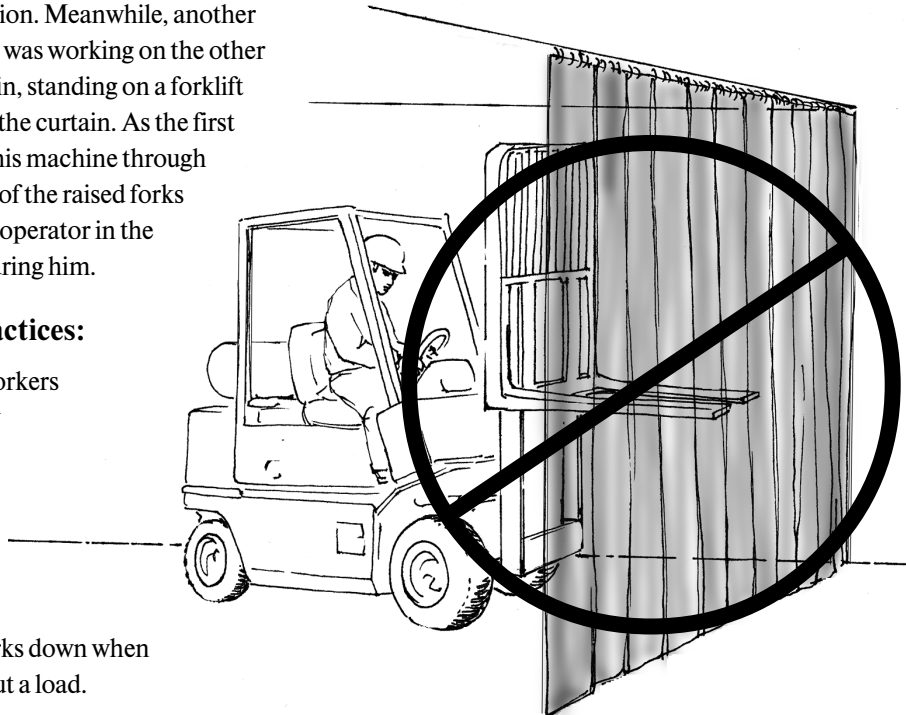
Forklift operators

Move cautiously when vision obstructed

A forklift operator was killed in a tragic accident where poor visibility played a major part in the incident. The fatal accident involved two forklift operators. One operator had just dropped off a load of empty pallets with his forklift. He turned his forklift to pick up another load. He then drove his machine forward through a set of plastic curtains that separated the warehouse work areas. The raised forks and the plastic curtain restricted his vision. Meanwhile, another forklift operator was working on the other side of the curtain, standing on a forklift with his back to the curtain. As the first operator drove his machine through the curtain, one of the raised forks struck the other operator in the back, fatally injuring him.

Safe work practices:

- Ensure that workers are adequately directed and instructed in how to perform their duties safely.
- Travel with forks down when moving without a load.
- Ensure that plastic curtains (or similar barriers) are maintained and kept in good working order.
- Provide a system of traffic control or other type of warning system when a forklift operator's vision may be obstructed



Language shouldn't be a barrier to safety

This poster was prepared for you and your workers. It is important that your workers receive the safety message that is contained in this poster. If your workers are unable to read English, we would appreciate it if you would translate, or have translated, this important message into a language they can understand. Thank you.