Forklift Seat Belt

Seat Belt for Forklifts - This guideline purpose is to be able to explain the Regulation requirements for the use of operator restraints or seatbelts on lift trucks. It is the employers' responsibility to make certain that every machinery, piece of equipment and device within the workplace is selected and utilized correctly and worked according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Rough Terrain forklifts should meet the guidelines of ANSI Standard ASME B56.6-1992 in regards to their inspection, fabrication, use, design and maintenance.

Side boom tractors and mobile equipment together with a Rollover Protective Structure, or ROPS for short, must have seat belts that meet the requirements of the Society of Automotive Engineers, or SAE, Standard J386 JUN93, Operator Restraint System for Off-Road Work Machines. If whichever mobile equipment includes seat belts required by law, the driver and subsequent passengers need to ensure they make use of the belts each time the motor vehicle is in motion or engaged in operation as this could cause the machinery to become unsteady and thus, not safe.

If a seat belt or various driver restraint is required on a lift truck.

While operating a lift truck, the seat belt requirements would depend on some factors. Contributing factors to this determination may include whether the the forklift is outfitted with a Rollover Protective Structure, the type of forklift itself and the year the lift truck was manufactured. The manufacturer's directions and the requirements of the applicable standard are referenced in the Regulation.

With regards to powered industrial lift trucks, ANSI Standard ASME B56.1-1993 refers to a driver restraint device, enclosure or system. An operator restraint device, enclosure or system is intended so as to aid the driver in reducing the danger of entrapment of the torso and/or head between the truck and the ground in the event of a tip over. The system or restraint device could consist of a seat belt, while a seat belt is not essentially a part of such machine or system.