

Seat Belts

This guideline reason is to be able to explain the Regulation requirements for the application of operator seatbelts or restraints on lift trucks. It is the employers' liability to be able to ensure that each and every machinery, piece of equipment and tool inside the workplace is chosen and utilized rightly and worked according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Regarding their fabrication, use, design, maintenance and inspection Rough Terrain lift trucks should meet the regulations of ANSI Standard ASME B56.6-1992.

Mobile machinery such as side boom tractors with a Rollover Protective Structure (ROPS), have to contain seat belts that meet the Society of Automotive Engineers safety requirements; Society of Automotive Engineers Standard J386 JUN93, Operator Restraint System for Off-Road Work Machines. If any mobile equipment has seat belts required by law, the operator and subsequent passengers need to make sure they utilize the belts whenever the vehicle is in motion or engaged in operation because this could cause the machinery to become unsteady and thus, unsafe.

If a seat belt or other operator restraint is required on a lift truck.

The seat belt requirements while operating a forklift depend on different factors. Whether the lift truck is outfitted with a Rollover Protective Structure, the type of forklift itself and the year the forklift was actually made all add to this determination. The manufacturer's directions and the requirements of the applicable standard are referenced in the Regulation.

With regards to to an operator restraint device, enclosure or system, ANSI Standard ASME B56.1-1993 in the case of powered industrial trucks, is intended to be able to assist the operator in reducing the possibility of entrapment of the head and/or torso between the truck and the ground in the event of a tip over. The restraint device or system can comprise a seat belt, even if a seat belt is not essentially a part of such equipment or system.