

POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS

Supplement to Standard Training Module

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW

This standard Vivid training module provides a general overview of employee training for the operation of powered industrial trucks (PIT). There are six (6) standard Vivid training modules, which together, provide a general overview of Powered Industrial Truck safety. In order to be certified as a PIT operator, all six (6) modules must be reviewed.

In addition to the six module general overview, all employees operating PIT's must receive facility and work-specific training. This additional training must cover:

- **Specific safety and operation information for the vehicle(s) operated**
- **Worksite topics and exposures specific to the facility**
- **Company policy on refresher training, licensing and certification**

This standard cannot be fully implemented without hands-on training and performance observations of the operator. Training content must be specific for the type of equipment being operated by the trainee. Consequently, it is important that there is specific customization of training supplements to the standard Vivid training modules.

It is considered a Best Practice to have a written program in place to detail the facility's powered industrial truck program. The program should cover responsibilities of management personnel and PIT operators. It should also outline required inspection procedures and safe operating rules for the facility.

Frequency: This training **must** be provided at the time of initial assignment, whenever workplace conditions change, and whenever the operator is: assigned to a different type of truck; observed operating a vehicle in an unsafe manner; involved in an accident or near miss.

A performance evaluation is required on each operator at least once every three years.

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE STANDARD

POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS (PIT) – 29 CFR 1910.178

1. SCOPE: This standard contains safety requirements relating to fire protection, design, maintenance and use of fork trucks, tractors, platform lift trucks, motorized hand trucks and other specialized industrial trucks powered by electric motors or internal combustion engines.

This standard does not apply to:

- Compressed air or nonflammable compressed gas-operated industrial trucks
 - Farm vehicles
 - Vehicles intended primarily for earth moving
 - Over-the-road hauling
2. VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS: Requirements are stated regarding the design, construction and approval of powered industrial trucks. Subtopics include:
 - Modification of vehicles
 - Various designations of equipment & designated locations where each type may be used
 - Conversion of trucks
 - Safety Guards
 3. FUEL HANDLING/STORAGE: Requirements are stated regarding the handling of diesel fuel, gasoline, LPG and the changing/charging of batteries (for electric trucks).
 4. OPERATION OF POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS: The following topics related to the operation of the PIT's are covered in the standard:
 - Lighting Requirements
 - Control of noxious gases/fumes
 - Dock boards (bridge plates)
 - Trucks and Railcars

5. OPERATOR TRAINING: This section covers the requirements of an operator training and certification program.

The regulation addresses specific requirements for:

- Training on Safe Operation of the PIT
 - Implementation of an Operator Training Program
 - Contents of an Operator Training Program
 - Refresher Training
 - Driver Evaluations
 - Certification of Authorized Operators
6. TRUCK OPERATIONS: Rules in this section apply to the safe operation of a powered industrial truck. Specific requirements are stated as to what must be covered during the training session. These include:
- Safe work practices
 - Traveling
 - Loading
 - Putting trucks out-of-service/Daily Inspections
 - Review of facility specific issues
7. MAINTENANCE: Rules in this section apply to keeping the trucks in good operating condition and what to do when repairs are required.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Publications

NIOSH Alert on Preventing Injuries and Deaths of Workers Who Operate or Work Near Forklifts <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/2001-109.html>

Appendix "A" of 29 CFR 1910.178

Developing a Training Program for Powered Industrial Truck Operators
http://www.osha-slc.gov/Training/PIT/developing_trg.html

Website

OSHA website:

<http://www.osha.gov>