

10 SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR WORKPLACE

1

Do you have a suitable traffic management plan?

Traffic management plans are a simple and effective way of minimising the exposure of staff to potentially dangerous activities in the workplace, such as forklift activity, noisy production areas etc.

2

Is there safe separation between your people and moving traffic?

Barriers are a great way to ensure physical segregation between people and potentially dangerous moving plant, such as forklifts; keeping your fellow staff out of harms way. Clearly defined crossings are essential to eliminate surprise appearance of people in forklift areas.

3

Are your loading docks safe?

Docks are a potential fall hazard. Loading dock safety gates and barriers prevent people and equipment from falling off platforms, service pits and recessed dock areas. Any area that an employee may be exposed to an unprotected edge, should have barriers or gates in place.

4

Is your racking protected in accordance with the Australian standards?

Warehouse racking is very susceptible to forklift damage and the consequences can be catastrophic. Correct rack-end protection is essential and will reduce the risk of devastating outcomes. Ensure racking is compliant and not overloaded.

5

Are all intersections clearly visible from both pedestrian and driver aspects?

Remove the potential risk of collision by having a clearly visible intersection. The use of domed mirrors and warning signals are a great option if visibility is limited. Designating specific pedestrian crossing points can help prevent distracted workers from running into plant operating.

6

Have you got sufficient signage alerting staff to danger zones?

Clearly signposted areas of high risk are essential. You can warn people of potential dangers, hazards, prohibit unwanted behaviour, direct instructions and more. Safety signs are only effective and compliant if positioned correctly and visible to read without straining the eyes.

7

Train and Re-Train. Do you have a training schedule?

Regular training in warehouse safety and scheduled toolbox talks are a great way of improving awareness, sharing concerns, sharing ideas and encourages ownership of safety. Ensure forklift drivers are licenced and staff are well trained in performing high risks jobs safely.

8

Do you insist on the necessary PPE?

By simply wearing correct PPE, so many injuries can be prevented. This is a great subject to discuss at your toolbox talks and is often a low cost remedy to a lot of risks. Determine the risks that workers face, then work out which PPE items are needed to reduce the chance of injuries.

9

Do you have clear housekeeping standards?

By simply maintaining a clean, well-lit, clutter free, orderly warehouse, reduces the risk of injury and is proven to increase efficiency. Housekeeping enables your employees to work in a more productive and effective environment.

10

Do you have an Evacuation Plan?

Clearly noted and rehearsed evacuation drills save lives!