



FS/HAAF GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE

Outsmart the Darkness: Your Weekly Safety Spotlight



Powered Industrial Trucks

As a Garrison, responsible for the daily operations of Fort Stewart, we use Material Handling Equipment (MHE) daily. What is MHE?

Safety Statistics

How many people are hurt each year?

- 35,000-62,000 annually with minor to serious injuries.
- Approximately 87 fatalities.

What is the root cause?

- Human error and complacency.
- Most common: rollovers or tip-overs, excessive speed, improper load balancing
- Least common: lack of operator training on the specific type of forklift

What are the different types of MHE?

Pallet jacks or Hand Trucks

- Small portable and used to move small loads around where a motorized forklift cannot go.
- Hydraulic manpowered versus engine powered

Warehouse Forklifts

- Multiple engine types and workflow
- Most common: Electric, LP gas
- Must make sure you are using the correct type in the work areas.

Heavy duty Forklifts:

- Rough Terrain: used outdoors and not on concrete pads or blacktop.
- Often are capable for moving large/heavy loads up to shipping containers.

Precautions and Hazard Abatement

Proper Instruction on the MHE

- Attend formal training on forklifts
- Conduct a proper pre-use safety inspection.
- Attend remedial/concurrent training.
- Remember: no two forklifts are the same.

Proper Operation of MHE

- TAKE YOUR TIME!
- Use ground guides.
- Go in reverse if you cannot see over your load.
- Go in reverse up and down ramps without a load.
- Do not overload or move multiple loads at once.