Is that Pallet Safe to Move?

**Hazard**

Unsecured, unstable load

Material that is not secured properly on a pallet for transport can shift and strike a worker, causing serious injury.

**Solution**

Securely wrapped

Secure pallet loads with shrink-wrap or other strapping material before moving to reduce the chance of a worker getting injured.

The most common workers’ compensation claims related to getting struck by an object are back sprains from being struck by boxes or cartons. These injuries can occur at many intervals during the load/unload process including during transport on the forklift or from cargo shift when opening a trailer.

**How to prevent injuries**

- Secure all material and items with shrink-wrap or strapping to assure stability, before moving with a forklift or other equipment.
- Don’t try to catch falling cargo or boxes.
- Protect co-workers around forklifts:
  - Watch your speed, especially while turning.
  - Leave plenty of room for workers on foot.
  - Don’t let co-workers ride on the forklift or stand on the forks.
  - Always travel with your load low for better visibility.

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Produced by the Trucking Injury Reduction Emphasis (TIRES) Project with funding in part from CDC/NIOSH grant U60 OH008487.

Publication No. 90-21-2008