

Tip Sheet



A series of health and safety tips to prevent work-related injuries in the trucking industry

Load Smart - Your driver will thank you

HAZARD



This driver is turning a pallet that weighs approximately 250 lbs because it was not loaded in the correct position.

SOLUTION



The top tier pallet is positioned so that the receiving customer's forklift driver can lift it.

Material handling can cause injuries to drivers, loaders and unloaders when . . .

- Workers use their bodies to move pallets that should be mechanically moved.
- Workers must rearrange loads that have been improperly loaded.

Communication about efficient and safe load placement is the key to preventing injuries

- Encourage communication between drivers and warehouse workers as part of your loading process. Have warehouse and sales staff ride along with a driver so they better understand the issues.
- Think about the delivery route and order loads appropriately.
- Make sure loads are placed so that they can be safely moved by hand trucks or pallet jacks and that the equipment is on the truck.
- Educate drivers on how to identify and safely deal with risk factors such as pinch points, slippery working surfaces and heavy or unstable loads.

For more information, go to www.KeepTruckingSafe.org.

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