80-Pound Box Leads to 8 Days Off Work

Industry: Trucking
Occupation: LTL truck driver
Task: Unloading trailer

A 33-year-old less-than-truckload driver from Tacoma was unloading his trailer by hand at a store. The store employees were not allowed to help, so he was unloading by himself. When he picked up an 80 lb. box, he felt a pop and pinch in his lower back. Then he could not stand up. He was diagnosed with a sprain to his lower back. The injury caused him to miss eight days of work.

Injury Prevention Tips for Lifting

• Make sure mechanical aids such as hand trucks and pallet jacks are on your truck.

• Use mechanical aids or more than one person to lift heavy loads.

• If you must lift manually, check the weight and keep loads close to your body.

• Don’t ignore pain. Report symptoms to your supervisor.

For more information, go to www.KeepTruckingSafe.org

SHARP Program, Dept. of Labor & Industries
PO Box 44330
Olympia, WA 98504-4330
Phone 1-888-667-4277
E-mail TruckingNews@KeepTruckingSafe.org

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