

## FACT SHEET 10

### FORK LIFT TRUCK MAINTENANCE IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT.

A lack of maintenance can lead to serious accidents. It can also result in the breakdown of the equipment and unscheduled stoppages to the work process.

Regulation 5 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98) states: *“Every employer shall ensure that work equipment is maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair”*. This is primarily to ensure that the equipment is safe, but it also has implications for productivity.

A sound system of daily or pre-shift checks is the cornerstone of good maintenance. This ensures that essential fluids are kept topped up and potential defects are identified before they become a problem. Further advice is available in the FLTA Daily Checks booklet.

Regular, preventive maintenance should be scheduled in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer of your equipment. Guidance on this can be provided by the fork truck dealer who provided the equipment. The time interval between the various services and inspections will vary according to the intensity of use and the working environment. Fork lift trucks are regarded as “plant” for maintenance purposes and time intervals are recorded in hours. For convenience your dealer will translate this into months for the purpose of determining the planned dates for maintenance activity.

If you use hired fork lift trucks you must allow the hire company regular access to the equipment for the purpose of maintenance.

Further information is available in the following publications:

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998  
Approved Code of Practice and Guidance  
HSC Code L22  
ISBN 0-7176-1626-6  
Price £8.00  
Tel: (HSE Books) 01787 881165

Operator Safety – Daily Checks  
(FLTA Publication)

Price according to quantity  
Tel: 01256 381441

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The information in this Fact Sheet has been assembled and interpreted to give truck owners and users basic guidance on frequently asked questions. Further important information will be given in the quoted reference documents. Responsibility for meeting the safety obligations discussed rests with the employer, and the FLTA will not accept liability for any problem arising as a result of the content of this document. **Technical Bulletins, containing more detailed information and updated as appropriate, are made available free to members of the FLTA SAFE USER GROUP.**

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