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Subject: Blue Alert: Forklift Truck Attachments

**Title: Forklift Truck Attachments**

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**Lessons Learned Statement:** After-market attachments to forklift trucks are considered a "modification" and can affect safe operation and/or capacity of the forklift truck. Written approval must be obtained from manufacturers before attachments/devices are used.

**Discussion of Activities:** After-market attachments to forklift trucks can change the capacity or handling characteristics of the equipment, especially if the configuration allows swinging loads. Attachment and use of such devices may present the following hazards:

- \* Overturn caused by swinging load
- \* Swinging loads striking bystanders or equipment
- \* Loss of truck control
- \* Structural damage to the upright due to the extended load center and unsecured loads.

Such modifications or additions shall not be performed without prior written approval from the forklift truck manufacturer.

CLARK Material Handling Company will not approve the use of jib boom attachments on their forklift trucks and has rescinded authorizations previously in effect.

**Analysis:** N/A

**Recommended Actions:** Forklift truck owners should ensure that no unauthorized attachments are used on CLARK forklift trucks and that they have manufacturer's written approval for attachments to other makes and models of forklift trucks

Priority Descriptor: BLUE/Information

Functional Categories (DOE): Occupational Safety and Health

Functional Categories (Hanford specific): Hoisting and Rigging

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References: 29 CFR 1910.178 (a) (4) & (a) (5)

ASME B56 Standards

Hanford Site Hoisting & Rigging Manual  
Hoisting & Rigging Bulletin, June 8, 1999