

Operational Alert's inform Signal Mutual Members of serious incidents within the Mutual which resulted in permanent disability, death or a significant near miss. If you have similar operations, please share this Operational Alert with operation managers, supervisors, equipment operators, and all affected employees. It is imperative that management, at all levels review their operations for similar hazardous conditions, or acts and their controls.

Seat Belts Save Lives

SUMMARY

Over the years, Women and Men in the maritime industry have experienced life altering incidents while operating Powered Industrial Trucks (PIT's). Despite training, some operators chose to not wear seat belts, at times resulting in injuries. However, there are the ones who chose to wear their seat belts, not for themselves, but for their families and loved ones. They did not allow anyone to influence them to not wear Life Saving Equipment. They chose to go home safe.

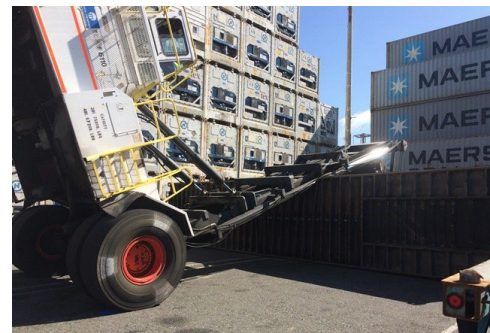
DESCRIPTION

Every year people are maimed, crushed, and killed jumping or thrown from forklifts.

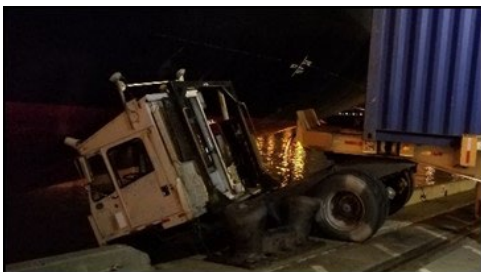
IN CASE OF A TIPOVER: For tip-overs on sit-down counterbalanced trucks, don't jump. Stay in the forklift. Hold tight to the steering wheel. Brace feet. Lean AWAY from the impact. Lean forward. Note: Tip over procedures for other types of forklifts may vary. For example, operators of stand-up forklifts with rear-entry access should step backwards off the forklift if a tip over occurs.



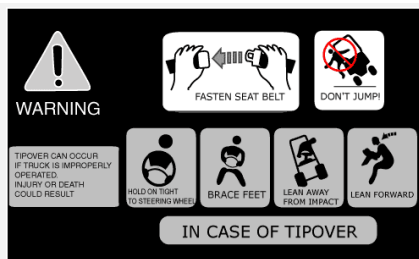
Longshore Strad operator wearing seat belt when machine tipped over—went home to loved ones.



Top Loader operator wearing seat belt when machine tipped forward. Operator walked away unhurt and home to loved ones and friends.



Longshore marine driver wearing seat belt when tractor violently thrust forward. Going home to loved ones.



Click [here](#) for helpful tips from OSHA on properly operating a forklift

Remember, the next person harmed could be you or someone's **Mother, Father, Daughter or Son.**

Whenever uncertainty, confusion, doubt exists, use:
S.T.A.R
(**Stop-Think-Act-Review**)

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