

# SAFETY ALERT

Germany

Display Until  
XX.XX.XX



## Truck driver hit by forklift

### DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

The truck delivered materials on behalf of the manufacturer. The forklift driver then wanted to load the truck with pallets. These were located at the hall wall next to the truck. 3 pallets were already behind the truck and the forklift picked up another 6 pallets to load them together. When the forklift driver drove backwards with the 6 pallets, he had to keep an eye on both the hall wall and the space behind the forklift. During moving backwards, the truck driver bent down to move the 3 pallets so the forklift could reach them better. Due to the crouched posture, he was overlooked and hit by the forklift driver. He suffered bruises and strains.

### KEY FINDINGS

- ✓ Forklift driver is trained and regularly instructed.
- ✓ The truck driver wore the fully prescribed PPE.
- ✓ The truck driver has gone through the induction tool
- ✓ Emergency care, alerting and instruction of the rescue services went smoothly.
- The truck driver were in the danger zone of the forklift.
- The forklift does not have audible reversing alarms
- Due to the limited space on the company premises, no loading and unloading zones are marked.
- Physical barriers (driveways and sidewalks) are also not possible due to the space available.

### HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED?

- Meeting with forklift manufacturers to retrofit forklifts with safety-related solutions
- Loading areas are defined and marked. Renew signage for driveways and sidewalks
- Implementation of the traffic route management project to create additional space and enable shorter routes for forklifts
- Have instruction additionally confirmed by hand
- Re-offering medical checks to forklift drivers (even if this had nothing to do with the accident)
- Additional instruction for forklift drivers due to given occasion
- In addition to this, ensure that the correct (existing) access ladder is used.



### Look after yourself and each other

Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.

### Driving

Drive safely, ensure you are authorised and that vehicles/mobile plant are well maintained.

### Housekeeping

Keep designated access routes and work areas tidy and free from trip/slip hazards.



STOP THINK ACT