

Thrown from PIT - Inspection #1100839

A **69 year old male** employee was fatally injured when the Moffett forklift he was operating tipped forward, throwing him from the operator's seat. The truck mounted Moffett M55 is a non-counterbalanced, three-wheeled powered industrial truck, equipped with three drive wheels, rear wheel steering, and designed to be mounted on the back of a flatbed delivery truck. On the day of the accident, the victim had successfully completed two home deliveries of palletized shingles and roofing materials with the Moffett. On his last delivery for the day, he unloaded the first of three pallets, and placed it on the driveway of the residential home. He returned to the flatbed truck to remove the second pallet. While maneuvering the second pallet the forklift tipped forward, and came to rest with the load and tips of the forks on the road. The victim was thrown from the operator seat approximately six feet, and landed on the road next to the front left tire of the delivery truck. The investigation determined that the victim had been trained as a powered industrial truck operator and a rough terrain truck operator, but the training did not include specific instruction or training on operating the Moffett M55 truck-mounted forklift. The victim was sitting on the fastened seatbelt rather than having it fastened around his waist when the accident occurred.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

29 CFR 1910.178(l)(1)(i)	The employer did not ensure that each powered industrial truck operator is competent to operate a powered industrial truck safely, as demonstrated by the successful completion of the training and evaluation specified in this paragraph (l). In that a powered industrial truck operator had not been trained on the equipment he was operating, a Moffett M55 truck-mounted PIT
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Citation 1 Item 2

TCA 50-3-105(1)	The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees in that employees were exposed to. In that the employer did not ensure a delivery driver was protected from fall hazards while operating his Moffett M55 truck mounted PIT; the seatbelt was fastened, but he was sitting on it while operating the PIT. A feasible abatement for this violation could be, but not limited to, train all Moffett M55 truck-mounted PIT operators to properly wear the seatbelt and to require all Moffett M55 truck-mounted PIT operators to wear the seatbelt.
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Photo 1 of 2 – Head on view of the Moffett PIT

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Photo 2 of 2 – Rear view of the Moffett PIT