

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.

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 Operator Safety – Daily Checks

Approved Code of Practice and Guidance

HSC Code L22

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