*F*ATAL

Never work between an unsecured forklift mast and frame

A mechanic was crushed between the mast and frame of a forklift truck that he was servicing. He died from internal injuries shortly after the accident. An investigation concluded that the following sequence took place prior to the accident.

To reach the hydraulic equipment that he was servicing, the mechanic climbed between the mast assembly and the operator's protective structure without first turning off the key, disconnecting the battery, or blocking off the mast to prevent it from moving. While tightening parts of the hydraulic system he accidentally hit the tilt-mast control with his foot. The mast jumped backward crushing him against the overhead guard extension on the frame. The guard extension had been modified. An unauthorized extension had been added to the front of the overhead guard.
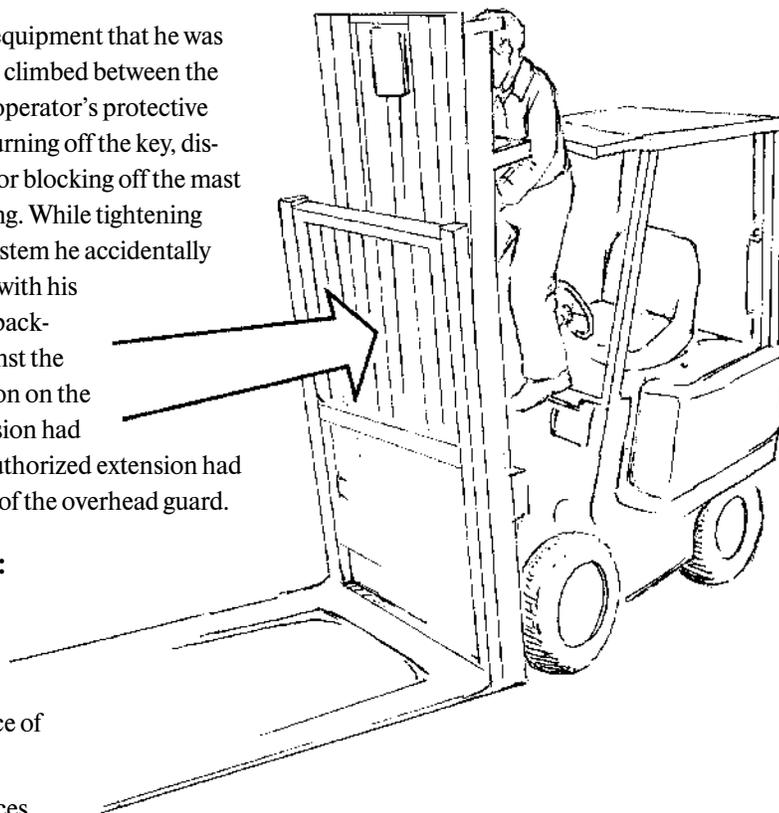
Safe work practices:

• Ensure that all workers receive adequate instruction in the safe performance of their duties.

• Lock out control devices and secure all parts of equipment (block out) against inadvertent movement before servicing equipment.

• Maintain mobile equipment in safe operating condition and ensure that all modifications are carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Language shouldn't
be a barrier to safety

This poster was prepared for you and your workers. It is important that your workers receive the safety message that is contained in this poster. If your workers are unable to read English, we would appreciate it if you would translate, or have translated, this important message into a language they can understand. Thank you.