

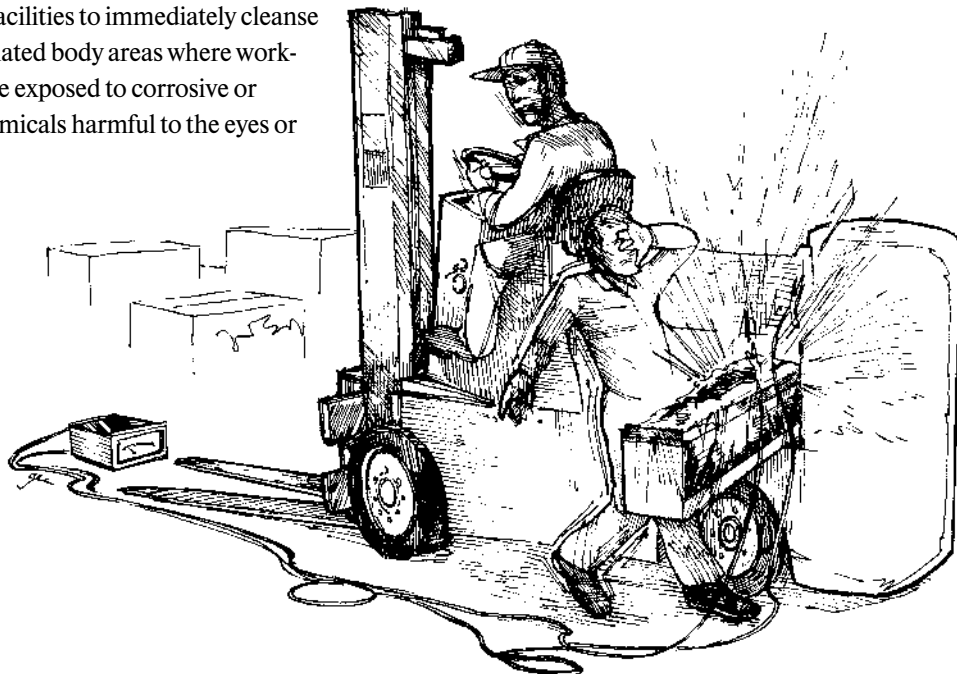
# HAZARD ALERT

## Use extreme caution when charging batteries

A worker suffered temporary hearing loss and acid burns to his face and eyes when a battery exploded as he was leaning over it to check the acid levels. The forklift battery was being charged and was still connected to the battery charger. As the worker was checking the acid level, a co-worker turned on the forklift ignition and it is believed that this triggered the explosion. The negative charger cable clip was attached incorrectly to the negative post of the battery instead of to the chassis or engine, away from the battery. This particular battery charger was not equipped with a feature that allows the engine to be started while the battery is still attached to the charger.

### Safe work practices:

- Employers, ensure the adequate instruction of workers in the safe performance of their duties.
- Follow all manufacturer's instructions for batteries and chargers when charging batteries, or checking acid levels.
- Make the final booster cable connection to the engine block or chassis of the stalled vehicle – never to the battery.
- Use proper eye and face protection when checking the battery fluid levels.
- Provide facilities to immediately cleanse contaminated body areas where workers may be exposed to corrosive or other chemicals harmful to the eyes or skin.



# 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.