

Transporting Paper in the Mill



PAPER ROLL CLAMPS

Throughout the Despatch/Finishing area of the Mill, Paper Roll clamps are used extensively for the movement of reels. The normal tyne lifting device is removed from the forklift and the clamp is attached to the forklift mast instead. Since clamps are a vastly different lifting concept to the standard tynes, even experienced forklift operators need to acquire competency in the use of the clamp device.

WorkCover requires that when driving a forklift with an uncommon attachment, the operator must check that the attachment and SWL is recorded on the forklift load plate, then familiarise themselves with driving the forklift and operating the attachment before attempting work tasks at their place of work.

On too many occasions forklift operators are observed with the forklift in motion and the tynes or Grab attachments positioned too close to the road surface. Driving in this manner places the vehicle at risk of hitting the road surface with potential for resultant driver injury and/or damaged forklift equipment.

There is an established safe driving height for forklift tynes and paper roll clamps which is highlighted in the WorkCover National Certificate for forklift driving. The lower edge of the tynes of clamp, in order to be far enough off the surface to avoid scraping or digging into the road surface, should be positioned at front axle height with the mast tilted back.

In order to protect against a paper reel becoming a rolling projectile if dislodged from the clamp while being moved, forklifts with clamp attachments need to operate with the roll clamp in the vertical position while in motion (as per above picture).

Forklift drivers have a responsibility to exercise care when driving on site. Forklift log books need to be signed off prior to each day's use of the fork. Speed limits need to be observed. Always be vigilant for pedestrians in the area.