



Signaling Techniques

Proper signaling can greatly increase the efficiency and productivity of a construction project whether it is guiding a delivery vehicle, a forklift or a crane. Improper signaling can kill or injure workers as well as cause severe property damage on a project. The following points are recommended discussion points when discussing signaling.

Guide for Discussion

- Know the signals. If you have to, get with the operator and coordinate what signals mean.
- Allow only one person to give signals.
- Be sure the operator knows who the signal person is.

The signal person must:

- Always be in a position to see both the operator and the work area.
- Always watch the load; the operator must watch the signal person.
- Not move a suspended load over workers.
- Always warn workers when loads are being moved in their area.
- Watch for overhead power lines and any other obstructions.
- Remember the proper type of signaling operation – for a truck, forklift or crane.

Additional Discussion Notes:

Remember: It only takes one small mistake on the part of the signal person to cause a severe injury or major property damage. Make sure you and the operator understand each other and the signals to be used.

NOTE: Always promote a discussion on any of the topics covered in the Weekly Safety Meeting. Should any question arise that you cannot answer, don't hesitate to contact the Safety Director.