



Code of Practice: Safe Use of Industrial Trucks

**Information
webinar**

27 November 2025



Marie McCarthy, Senior Inspector

Thank You in Advance for



An tÚdarás Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta
Health and Safety Authority

- Making the time to be with us today
- Your interest in the Code of Practice
- Your participation in the consultation process
- This webinar is aimed at Training Providers
- **Key Stakeholders** in raising standards for safe use of industrial trucks
- There will be another webinar on December 11th aimed at employers, supervisors, operators

Origin of this Code of Practice

- *2001 Code of Practice Rider-operated lift trucks: operator training* has been in place for over 20
- Only applied to the
 - training of operators
 - for 2 types of forklifts - counterbalance and reach
- Industrial trucks have evolved and many different types of industrial trucks have been introduced to workplaces
- Significant number of incidents with forklift trucks over the years
- Training landscape is inconsistent
- Employers placing pressure on training providers to provide courses of short duration
- We want to raise standards around the use of industrial trucks – this includes the overall (minimum) standard of training provided
- We want those who deliver training in industrial trucks to be qualified as professional trainers
- Ultimately, we want to reduce the incidence of incidents involving industrial trucks

The Consultation Process

- The period of public consultation lasted from 20 November 2023 until 08 January 2024
- Separate consultation with H.S.A Board & Advisory Committees
- Many of the 27 submissions we received were from training providers – very welcome
- We considered the submissions carefully and took on board many of the suggestions made
- Amended the text to reflect many of them
- Transition period for introduction of Level 6 Train the Trainer qualification increased at your request – a year to 18 months (March 2027)
- The ratio of participants: trainer: truck was expanded to 3:1:1
- Many trainers who use accreditation systems want to continue to use them
- Persons under the age of 18 are prohibited from operating lifting equipment by Reg 51 GAR - implications for training of those under 18

The new Code of Practice

- Applies to the use of **rider-operated** industrial trucks in all workplaces
- Provides a comprehensive **framework for managing all aspects of industrial truck operations** in a more holistic, safe, and sustainable way based on a **Safe Systems Approach**
- Places focus on the role of
 - Employers
 - Training providers
 - Supervisors
 - Operators
 - Those who work in/around industrial trucks and
 - Those preparing risk assessments or designing systems of work for use of industrial trucks

Aim of the revised Code of Practice

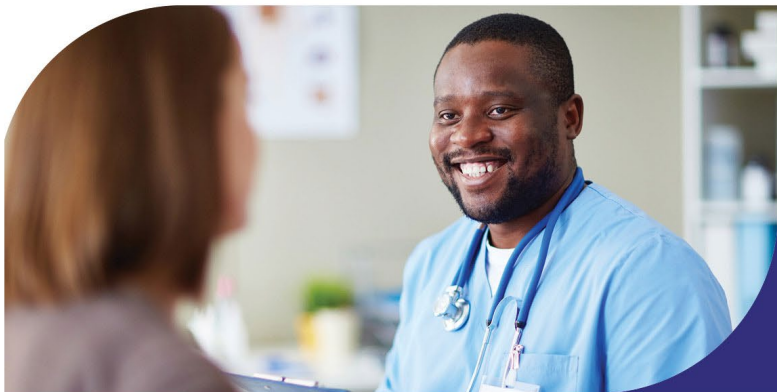
- To **raise standards** in all aspects of industrial truck use
 - Selection of operators
 - Training – 3 Stages
 - Operation
 - Supervision
 - Refresher/Conversion training
- We are asking you to support us in doing this
- There will be a greater focus on enforcement of legislation and this COP than there was for the previous Code



HSA

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Go raibh maith agaibh
Thank you



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