

## Safety Alert

**ARTC No. 127**  
**Issued 23/10/2020**

### Storage of Forklift Pallet Racking – ARTC safety alert

This alert has been issued to raise awareness that an incident has occurred on an ARTC worksite and to communicate current controls aimed at reducing the risk of this occurring elsewhere.

As part of a lifting operation, a forklift was used to remove a pallet that was being stored on the top level of the pallet racking in a warehouse. During the lift, the contents of the pallet moved and the contents has fallen to the ground. Investigation is underway to identify the cause and contributing factors of the incident.

Whilst in this event no one was injured, there was potential that a serious incident could have occurred.

#### **Please consider - is your workplace at risk of objects falling from heights?**

- Has a risk assessment been conducted, hazards identified, and risk controls implemented?
- Has the integrity of the base plates been considered e.g. replacing wooden pallets for stronger products?
- Have exclusion zones been considered to protect others in the work area?
- Has an inspection and maintenance schedule for racking been established?
- Is the Safe Working Load (SWL) rating displayed and visible?
- Has the load on each pallet been secured to prevent movement?
- Where possible have heavier items been stored closer to the ground.



#### **For your action**

1. Place Safety Alert on display and make copies of this alert available to people who report to you (without regular email access) and ensure that the contents of the safety alert are discussed/explained to your staff.
2. If engaging contractors, ensure they are made aware of current ARTC Safety Alerts.

3. Ensure a method of sign-off is obtained (eg via tool-box/safety meetings/morning briefings etc) to verify that the Safety Alert has been distributed and discussed.
4. If you have any safety concerns with this Safety Alert please speak directly to your supervisor.

#### **Further information**

- All Safety Alerts issued can be [found here](#).
- Further information can be found in AS 4084:2012 - Steel storage racking

For further information contact:

- Cath Bowlzer Principal Advisor Safety and Environment Interstate
- Brett Teasdale Principal Advisor Safety Hunter Valley
- Stephen Jones Health & Safety Manager - Delivery Inland Rail
- Hinea Clark Corporate Principal Safety Manager
- Mark Blackmore General Manager, Safety and Environment