

## Safety Standards for Lift Trucks CSA B335-15

May 22, 2015

The new safety standards for lift truck have now been passed and have been put into effect. The CSA Safety Standard B335-15 is a comprehensive document outlining the key elements of operator training along with qualifications for both trainers and maintenance technicians. The new standard will now also include how the instruction is to be conveyed and evaluated which will include in class theory, hands-on, knowledge verification and a practical evaluation.

The most substantial change will be in regards to the practical re-evaluation. In the previous standard the practical re-evaluation was to be conducted every 18 months, that has now changed and the re-evaluation can now be done every three years along with the theoretical training and examination. With this new standard a broader responsibility will now be for the employer to monitor operator performances on an ongoing basis, as it has not been or will not be uncommon for operators to become complacent when operating lift truck equipment. With that, there are also some additional circumstances that will determine if retraining must be completed before the three year mark which are:

- When new or different equipment is introduced into the workplace
- When the operating conditions and environment have changed
- When legislation changes are introduced, or
- When skill or knowledge deficiencies are identified

Once again, the due diligence of the employer will play a key role in the successful maintenance of this new standard and as always Gambit Safety will always extend a helping hand when need be. Some of our recommendations for a proper execution of this new standard would be;

- Having all Supervisors & Lead Hands whom have not taken the theoretical portion of the lift truck training to do so. This will help ensure they know how to identify skills or knowledge deficiencies of current operators.
- Continue with a more frequent retesting schedule. This will also help to ensure that operators have not become complacent using their equipment and indicate the employer is doing more than the minimum.

Our goal is to help our clients reach and maintain a safe and productive workplace for every worker. Training is not only a necessity to attaining this goal, it is the key.

Thank you,  
Gambit Safety Inc. Management