

Preventing Collisions

Safe Travel Rules

Always follow all Safe Travel Rules when operating a PIT.

Avoiding Collisions

1. Slow down and sound the horn at cross aisles and other locations where vision is obstructed.
2. Yield to pedestrians – never assume they are aware of your presence or intended direction of travel
3. Use a horn or warning light to warn pedestrians when traveling in reverse.
4. Be aware of limited visibility and use extreme caution when driving in reverse.
5. Use rear-view mirrors, spotters, and other aids to increase visibility.
6. Do not assume pedestrians or bystanders are able to hear a back-up alarm.
7. Separate PIT and pedestrian traffic as much as possible. Pedestrians should use pedestrian walkways, where available, and PIT operators should never operate a PIT within a pedestrian walkway.
8. Do not travel into a position that, if your PIT jumped forward, the brakes failed, or the wrong lever was pushed, a coworker could be pinned between the forklift and another object.
9. Be aware of potential obstructions in all directions.
10. Approach elevators slowly and enter squarely after the elevator car is properly leveled. Once on the elevator, neutralize the controls, shut off the power, and set the brakes.

Turning Safely

1. When turning, reduce speed to reduce the chance of a tipover.
2. When operating a forklift in confined areas or narrow aisles, remember that the rear-end swings in the opposite direction of the turn.
3. Anticipate the rear-end swing and start the turn as close to the inside corner as possible. Plan your route and anticipate turns.

