



## Safety Bulletin

### Forklift Approach Warning Light System

How many times have you turned a corner or a blind spot and been shocked or surprised by what's met you? In a warehouse environment, it's a very real possibility that next time you turn a corner you will be met by a forklift, a heavy and dangerous forklift that can seriously hurt you. A forklift approach warning light warns pedestrians and operators of approaching forklifts, predominantly when they are not in view.

Separating forklifts and pedestrians has long been a problem for workplace managers and supervisors. This task becomes more difficult when forklifts cannot be seen or heard. It is particularly hard to know when electric forklifts are approaching in a warehouse. Whenever there is any chance that a forklift and a pedestrian will cross paths, safety precautions must be taken to prevent accidents.

A forklift approach warning light, more commonly known as a blue safety light system, ensures greater safety in warehouse aisles, blind spots, and confusing crossing points. It has become a sought after solution for counterbalance and warehouse forklifts. The lights can be mounted to both the front and back of the forklift. A bright, usually blue, light is projected onto the floor, several metres ahead of the forklift in the direction of travel. This light warns pedestrians and other operators that a forklift is approaching. The light moves only when the forklift does, thus pedestrians are aware when the forklift is stationary or on the move.

Safe Work Australia suggests that the use of visual warning systems is an important factor to consider for your traffic management plan. A forklift approach warning light provides many benefits, including:

- Early warning of an approaching forklift.
- Improves safety in aisles, blind spots and crossing points.
- When mounted correctly it is not sensitive to vibration.
- Also available in red, to provide the best possible contrast to the floor surface.
- Provides a clear indication of the forklift's position and movement.



Making forklifts more noticeable in your facility will only help you have a more effective traffic management plan. Warning pedestrians and other operators of approaching forklifts will no doubt reduce the potential for accidents and injuries.

MLA Holdings can fit all Mitsubishi counterbalance and warehouse forklifts with a suitable forklift approach warning system upon request. For more information contact MLA Holdings on 131 652 or [www.mlaholdings.com.au](http://www.mlaholdings.com.au).