Forklift Safety Case Study: Recycling Facilities

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A leading, privately owned packaging and resource recovery company, with more than 120 sites across Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and Vietnam and trading offices across Asia, Europe and the USA.

# What were the risks?

A number of potential risks for serious injuries caused by the continuous interaction of workers, delivery trucks and forklifts.

The risks were that:

* Forklift drivers and pedestrians were working together in a confined space, leading to an increased risk of injury
* Forklift drivers were exposed to weather and had to operate forklifts on wet and slippery surfaces
* The view from the forklift driver is often obstructed, preventing clear sight of interactions with pedestrians, delivery trucks and forklifts

# What were the solutions?

Management recognized that they needed to make changes to its safety management plan across sites. The changes included:

* Creating designated truck parking zones using floor line markings to ensure adequate space between forklifts and delivery trucks
* Installing Protrac ID Forklift Alert Systems to all forklifts creating a clear zone between forklifts and pedestrians
* Consulting workers from the beginning of the process so they understood the new management plan
* Providing ongoing support for the changes

# What were the benefits?

* Loading trucks in designated areas reduced the need for pedestrians to be within the area
* Visibility from the forklift drivers was improved through installation of Protrac ID Forklift Alert System, allowing Forklift drivers to identify pedestrian movements in all areas
* Involving workers in the development of the plan gave them a greater ownership of their own safety
* Reporting and awareness of safety issues improved as workers were empowered to report incidents and near misses

# Protrac ID FAS System

* Protrac ID FAS unit is fitted to the forklift truck
* Workers are issued with Protrac ID safety vests and/or tags
* Drivers receive a warning when a tag has entered the detection area around the forklift
* Driver warnings include strobe light and piezo alarm as standard
* Acceptance feature available for driver to use at his / her discretion
* Waterproof system including tags

**This case study is only one example of the solutions manufactured by Protrac ID to deliver cost effective**

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