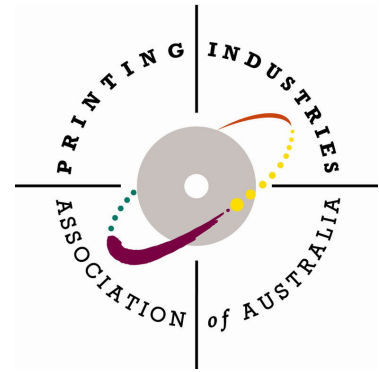


7 May 2009

CIRCULAR NO: PAN/IL11/2009

ACT MEMBERS ONLY



APPROVED EXEMPTIONS FOR OPERATION OF PLANT IN THE ACT

Members are advised four exemptions for the operation of plant under the *Occupational Health and Safety (Certification of Plant Users and Operators) Regulation 2000* have been approved.

The exemptions affect:

- work assist vehicles;
- pedestrian forklift trucks;
- pallet trucks; and
- elevating work platforms which incorporate a mast-type boom.

Work Assist Vehicles

Work Assist Vehicles (also known as “WAVE” trucks) are mobile plant designed by manufacturers which:

- comply with Australian Standards governing the design and safe use of elevating work platforms;
- have the main purpose of positioning a single operator, equipment and materials to and from work locations above the support surface; and
- have not been designed for load shifting activities.

The exemption - there is no longer a requirement for a certificate of competency or high risk work license for the Order Picking Forklift Truck (LO) class in the ACT.

This exemption is subject to the following conditions:

- physical isolation controls must be put in place by the employer to ensure unauthorized persons cannot access or operate a work assist vehicle;
- all authorized operators must have successfully completed training to the standard deemed necessary by the manufacturer for the safe operation of the work assist vehicle;
- written records must be kept by the employer on the training and means of assessment for each authorized operator; and
- if the manufacturer has developed a specific course of training for a particular model of the work assist vehicle then this training must be the one provided.

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Pedestrian Forklift Trucks and Pallet Trucks

The exemptions for the operation of pedestrian forklift trucks or pallet trucks was issued in order to bring the ACT in line with those of other jurisdictions.

The exemption – there is no longer a requirement for a certificate of competency or high risk work license in the Fork Lift Truck (LF) class in the ACT for:

- a pedestrian operated forklift truck;
- a pedestrian operated pallet truck; and
- a pallet truck which is capable of providing no more than 225 millimetres lift.

Mast-Type Elevating Work Platforms

Mast-type elevating work platforms (also known as “single man lifts”) have been excluded from the classification of an “order-picking forklift truck” where the design of the elevating work platform incorporates a mast. However, this does not change the requirements for a “boom-type elevating work platform”.

The exemption – there is no longer a requirement for a certificate of competency or high risk work license in the Order Picking Forklift Truck (LO) class in the ACT.

Members should note these exemptions **do not** reduce any employer obligations under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 1989* to provide a safe workplace for employees.

The exemption instruments are effective from **21 April 2009** and further information can be found on the Office of Regulatory Services website: <http://www.ors.act.gov.au/workcover/>

Members with enquiries regarding the above should contact *Printing Industries'* Employee Relations Department on tel. (02) 8789 7300.

Yours faithfully



Ni Gao
Employee Relations Advisor