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## **US Department of Labor's OSHA conducting inspections focused on powered industrial truck hazards in Florida**

**ATLANTA** – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has announced a new emphasis program focused on reducing fatalities and serious injuries in Florida related to powered industrial trucks. Employers are encouraged to bring their facilities into compliance with OSHA standards in the maritime, construction and general industries.

"Powered industrial trucks are a significant source of serious and fatal injuries to workers," said Cindy Coe, OSHA's regional administrator in Atlanta. "Employers are responsible for ensuring that workers follow the proper safety procedures and for eliminating hazards from the workplace."

In addition to Florida, OSHA will be addressing the standards and hazards related to powered industrial trucks at facilities in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. The inspections primarily will focus on the training operators receive, maintenance and repair, and the pathways the trucks travel to ensure clear visibility and determine any possible struck-by hazards.

The regional emphasis program began on May 29 and will continue until Sept. 30, 2012, unless it is extended. More information is available to the public by contacting Benjamin Ross at 678-237-0400.

To report workplace incidents, fatalities or situations posing imminent danger to workers, call OSHA's toll-free hotline at 800-321-OSHA (6742). Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit <http://www.osha.gov>.

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