

## **ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT WHILE OPERATING A FORKLIFT.**



This photo shows that scene of a fatality that occurred when a forklift tipped over and the operator thought he could “jump clear.” He didn’t quite make it. He was crushed between the forklift rollover bar and the concrete floor. He wasn’t wearing his seatbelt.

Other factors contributing to this death:

- The presence of tipover hazards including “homemade” curbing at the edge of the loading ramp.
- Inadequate lighting. It was too dark to safely see the operating area.
- The lights on the forklift were burnt out.

If you’re involved in a forklift tipover:

- Don’t jump.
- Hold on tight.
- Brace your feet.
- Lean away from the direction of the tipover.

The best recyclers have retrofitted their forklifts with seatbelts equipped with kill switches. These work similar to the ones in our personal vehicles and can be wired to the transmission so the machine will idle but not move. Operators found sitting on buckled seatbelts are terminated immediately.

**Seriously: Safely—Or Not At All.**

Produced by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries  
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