MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

KILN FORK OPERATOR - Near Miss SIF(p)

A forklift operator pushed a dry load out of the kiln and then moved a green load onto the same track. After returning to the forklift, the operator radioed that they were ready to push another load into the kiln. The operator began pushing the load before they received and confirmed an "all clear."

The load was pushed through the east door, causing approximately $20,000 in damage and another operator narrowly avoided being crushed. The incident had the potential to result in a serious or fatal injury.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Review radio communication protocol with all kiln forklift operators and reinforce that "all clear" radio communication must be received and acknowledged before pushing a load.
- Increase the frequency of radio communication audits and reviews rather than conducting them only twice a year.
- Investigate additional technology options and safety measures to manage risks in the kiln area.
- Test new protocols for kiln charges. Operators must stay together when not in their forklifts.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Never push a load without a confirmed "ALL CLEAR."

If communication is not clearly heard and acknowledged, stop and re-confirm before proceeding. Never assume you've been heard or rush to complete the task.

MAG Manufacturing Advisory Group

BC Forest Safety

BCFSC welcomes all incident or near-miss submissions. To protect your privacy, we will review and remove all identifying information.

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