



Portable Fuel Tank Slides off Fork Lift

An Operator was moving a portable diesel tank with a fork lift to fill up air compressors, welding machine and light plants for the night shift crew during a Turnaround. During the transport, the fill hose became unwound and fell to the ground on the road. The Operator noticed the hose falling and so as not to run over the hose with the fork lift, he applied the brakes on the fork lift and the tank slipped off of the forks onto the road. The tank laid down on its side and diesel spilled out of the fill cap. Operator then moved the fork lift into position to place the tank back in the upright position. It was estimated that the 24 spilled gallons of diesel fuel was contained, then picked up and disposed of in an appropriate container.





Several lessons can be learned from this incident:

1. Make sure items being transported on forks are secured and will not slide off or fall off of the forks.
2. The fill hose and nozzle should be secured to prevent falling to ground while in transport.
3. Gradual braking will help in preventing loads from shifting and falling off.

Ask yourself, if something could go wrong, what would it be and then plan to take steps to prevent it. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Remember: "No task is so important that it be done at the risk of safety."