



Safety Talk



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Storage Rack Safety

Workplaces with racking and storage facilities may contain potentially serious hazards. The improper use, selection and installation, or maintenance of racking and storage systems may put workers at risk of injury.

The costs associated with a storage rack accident can be incredibly high. Accidents can also result in a visit from the Ministry of Labour, which can result in heavy fines and follow-up visits.

Training of workers is critical when storing items on racks and shelving within the workplace.

Tips for Using Storage Racks

- use assisted lifting devices to handle heavier objects
- ensure storage racks are adequately maintained
- ensure storage racks are adequately secured
- ensure items on storage racks are adequately secured – anchored to floor and walls
- ensure load ratings are posted on storage racks
- replace any damaged storage racks
- use wire cages or guardrails for hazardous/fragile items
- keep aisles clean and free of debris
- educate workers about using storage racks
- erect guardrails or posts at the end of storage racks to prevent accident contact
- do not exceed the load ratings
- do not modify storage racks
- do not use storage racks which are not approved for the workplace



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"Working Safely for the Health of It"

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