

Careers in the Supply Chain

FORKLIFT OPERATOR

National Occupational Classification Code – 7452

Alternative Titles:

- bin filler, conveyor console operator
- forklift truck operator
- freight handler (except air transport)
- furniture mover
- material handler, stockpiler, truck loader
- storage worker - material handling



Industry Description

Forklift operators handle, move, load and unload materials by hand or by using a variety of material-handling equipment. They are employed by transportation, storage and moving companies, and by a variety of manufacturing and processing companies and retail and wholesale warehouses.

General Job Description

Forklift operators operate forklifts to move product or materials in warehouses or storage yards, including to and from transport trailers.

Job Functions

Forklift operators perform some or all of the following duties:

- Check fuel, oil and water levels daily.
- Make visual mechanical inspection of assigned equipment.
- Move finished product from transport to proper storage area in warehouse, according to schematic or as directed by a supervisor.
- Load empty hulls, pallets, tanks or cups on transport trailer, or as directed by a supervisor
- Straighten product on pallets to maintain orderly storage.
- Sort breakers, hulls or tanks as needed.
- Help keep the warehouse clean and free from debris.
- Abide by all safety rules.
- Other duties as required.

Physical Demands Analysis

- Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust or focus
- Ability to lift up to 75 lbs.
- Good overall physical shape, i.e., back, knees, shoulders, feet and legs
- Bending/stooping, sitting, lifting, squatting, kneeling, rotating, twisting, balancing, walking, crouching, reaching, and operating keyboard/calculator

Position Expectations

Essential Skills	
Reading Text	1
Document Use	2
Computation	1
Writing	1
Oral Communication	2
Thinking Skills	2
Working with Others	2
Computers	2
Continuous Learning	2

Scale: 0 = n/a, 1 = minimal, 2 = moderate, 3 = high

Salary Range:

Visit Working in Canada, at <http://workingincanada.gc.ca/welcome.do?lang=en>, to get current information about this position, including salary information.

Pre-employment Skills

- High-school diploma or G.E.D. equivalent
- Self-motivated with good time-management skills
- Ability to work in a high-pressure environment
- Good vision and manual dexterity
- Experience in operating mechanical equipment preferred

Find information about supply chain-related educational offerings across Canada in the CSCSC's education compendium, at <http://www.supplychaincanada.org/en/education-information>.

Career Levels/Years of Experience

Career Levels	Position	Average Experience	
		From	To
10	Site Manager	7 years	10 years+
9	Operations Manager	5 years +	6 years
8	Operations Manager Trainee	4 years +	5 years+
7	Area/Department Manager	4 years +	5 years+
6	Manager Trainee	4 years	5 years
5	Warehouse Supervisor	3 years	4 years+
4	Warehouse Supervisor Trainee	2 years	4 years
3	Team Leader	2 years	3 years
2	Team Leader Trainee	1 year	2 years
1	Forklift Operator		1 year+

References

- NOC (National Occupational Classification Codes), Government of Canada – <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/Welcome.aspx>
- Essential Skills – http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential_skills/general/home.shtml