

ABC of Iowa Powered Industrial Truck Survey Results

9/30/2020

A survey was conducted between 9/22 and 9/29/2020 to provide data on powered industrial truck (PIT) use among ABC of Iowa Members as an objective of the ABC of Iowa/Iowa OSHA Alliance. This survey was conducted as a request for information to determine actions necessary to reduce regulatory burden in light of the potentially forthcoming update to OSHA's PIT standard. The request to conduct the survey was sent to 115 members who are on the safety contact distribution list, as directed by the ABC of Iowa Safety Council. 14 members participated in the survey and 2 additional members reported no powered industrial truck use, a 13.9% response rate.

Employer Information

The responding employers work under the following NAICS codes:

NAICS	Description	# Employers
238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure	1
238210	Electrical	6
238220	Plumbing/HVAC	4
238220/238160*	Mechanical/Roofing	1
236220*	Building Erecting/Construction	2

*NAICS was not given and is assumed by the given trade/work performed

Employee/Operator Information

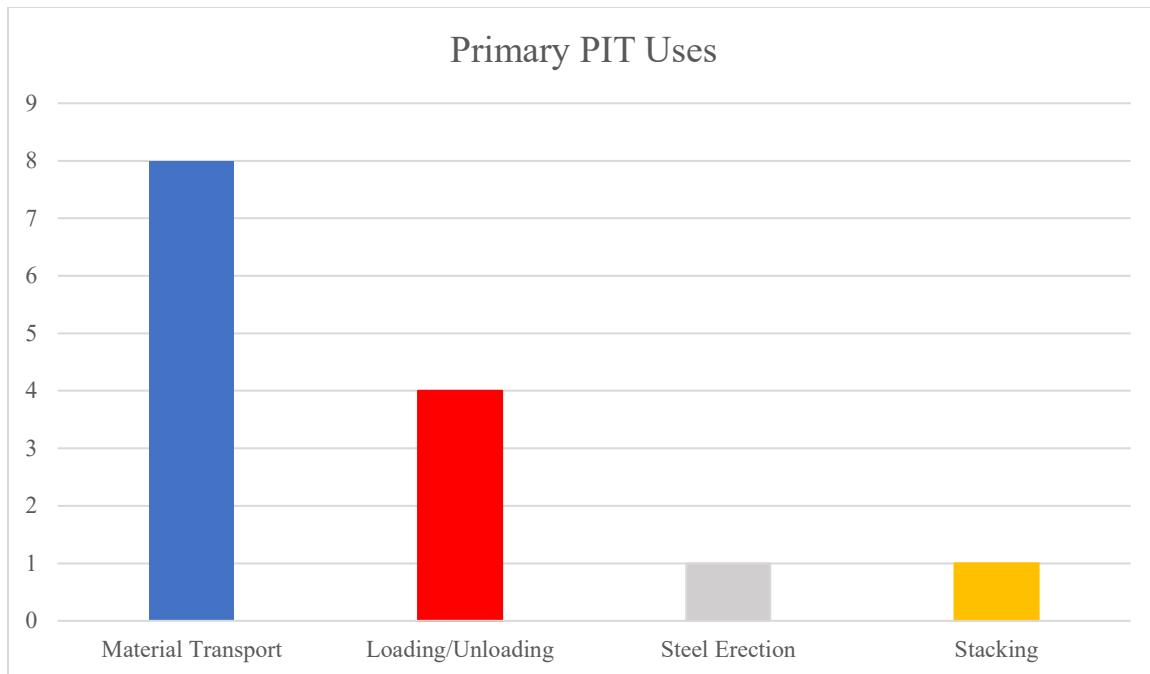
There were 1,406 total employees reported for the survey, with an average of 100.43 workers per company and a median of 93. Of these, 346 were identified as PIT operators (24.6% of total employees). There was an average of 24.71 PIT operators per employer and the combined average percentage of PIT operators versus total workers was 32%.

The PIT operators' frequencies of operation were identified as follow:

Frequency	# Operators	% of Total Operators (/346)
Full time, every day	65	18.8%
Part time, daily	26	7.5%
2-4 days per week, time varies	80	23.1%
Once weekly, time varies	13	3.8%
Rarely, when needed	36	10.4%
Varies/Other/Not Identified	126	36.4%

Primary Uses

Primary uses of PITs were given as follow:



Accidents/Incidents

Fatalities – 0 fatalities related to PIT use were reported in the last 5 years.

Recordable Injuries – 2 recordable injuries related to PIT use were reported in the last 5 years. There were 2 employers with one recordable injury each (14.3% of total employers).

Tip-over/Rollover – 0 tip-over/rollover PIT incidents were reported in the last 5 years.

Property Damage – 7 property damage incidents related to PIT use were reported in the last 5 years. There were 3 employers with property damages (21.4% of total employers): 4 incidents (1); 2 incidents (1); 1 incident (1).

Causal factors of the above incidents were identified as follow:

Causal Factor	Instances	% of Occurrence
Operator Behavioral Issue	4	44.4%
Lack of Training/Retention	3	33.3%
Dangerous Environment	1	11.1%
Equipment Too Old	1	11.1%
Lack of Safety Equipment	0	0.0%
Ineffective Safety Equipment	0	0.0%
Defective PIT	0	0.0%
Push from Supervision/Time Issue	0	0.0%

Equipment Owned

Type of Equipment Owned.

The following were reported as equipment owned by the employers:

PIT	Total Owned	# of Owners	% of Employers that Own*	Avg PITs/Employer*
Telehandler	23	7	50%	1.64
Other Forklifts	22	11	79%	1.57
Tractors	6	4	29%	0.43
Platform Lift Trucks	22	5	36%	1.57
Other Specialized Industrial Trucks	8	5	36%	0.57
Total Owned	81			

*out of 14 employers surveyed

One group surveyed does not own any PITs.

Age of Equipment Owned.

The following were reported as equipment owned by the employers:

Age Category	Total	# of Owners	% of Employers that Own*	Avg PITs/Employer*
< 3 Years	12	5	36%	0.86
3 Years < 7 Years	16	5	36%	1.14
7 Years < 10 Years	15	6	43%	1.07
> 10 Years	16	7	50%	1.14
Unknown/Unspecified	59			

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Equipment Rented

Type of Equipment Rented: Telehandlers, other forklifts.

Number of Employers that Rent Equipment: 5 (36%).

Alternative Types Used

The following are the number of employers using the 8 additional forklift types that OSHA may adopt:

Type	# Employers Using	% Employers Using*
CGH - Compressed Hydrogen Powered Unit	0	0
CN - Compressed Natural Gas	3	21%
CNS - Compressed Natural Gas with Additional Safeguards	0	0
DX - Diesel with Electrical for Use in Certain Environments with Specific Flammable Vapors, Dusts, or Fibers	1	0

G/CN - Gasoline or Compressed Natural Gas with Minimum Acceptable Safeguards	3	21%
G/LP - Gasoline or LPG with Minimum Acceptable Safeguards	7	50%
GS/CNS - Gasoline/Compressed Natural Gas with Additional Safeguards	0	0%
GS/LPS - Gasoline/LPG with Additional Safeguards	3	21%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Training

Training Company.

The following are responses indicating whether training is performed in-house or by an external provider:

Training Company	# Responses	%*
In-House	9	64%
External Provider	4	29%
Both	1	7%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Trainer Title.

The following are responses indicating the title of the person performing the training:

Trainer	# Responses	%*
Evaluator	1	7%
Project Manager	1	7%
Safety Director	3	21%
Safety Manager	1	7%
Safety Coordinator	1	7%
Safety Consultant	1	7%
Foreman	1	7%
United Academy	1	7%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Training Development.

Developed vs Purchased – The following indicates whether the materials used for in-house PIT certification training were purchased or developed in-house:

Where Training Materials were Created	# Responses
In-House	6
By an Outside Party (Purchased)	3
Both	1

Time to Develop – Those who developed training presentations in-house spent the following times doing so:

Duration	# Responses
1 Hour (uses in combination with purchased)	1
6 Hours	1
8 Hours	1
2 Days	1
Weeks	1
2 Months	1

Training Duration.

The following are responses indicating how long PIT certification training takes:

Duration	# Responses	%*
4 Hours	1	7%
3 Hours	3	21%
2 Hours	3	21%
1.5 Hours	1	7%
1 Hour	3	21%
0.5 Hours	1	7%
2+ Hours	1	7%
2-4 Hours	1	7%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Certification Renewal.

The following are responses indicating how often certification renewals occur:

Frequency	# Responses	%*
Annually	4	29%
Every 3 Years	8	57%
As Needed	2	14%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Retraining.

The following are responses indicating how many times per year respondents re-train/re-certify for poor performance, incidents, or near misses:

Frequency	# Responses	%*
1-2 times/year	2	14%
Once	1	7%
6	1	7%
As Needed/Varies	3	21%
None/NA/0	7	50%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Covered Training Topics Specified by ANSI.

Respondents were asked if their training includes the following topics indicated by ANSI:

Topic	# Include Training	%*
Carbon Monoxide Exposure and Initial Symptoms	4	29%
Venting of LP Slowly in a Non-Hazardous Area Before Working on Engine Fuel Systems	1	7%
Stopping Distances When Descending Grades	6	43%
Noise Exposure of Personnel in the Operating Area	2	14%
Capacity Limits of Equipment Used to Relocate PITs (Crane, Elevator, Etc.)	4	29%
None of these	6	43%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Aftermarket Safety Additions

Items Implemented.

The following are aftermarket safety items respondents indicated that their companies add to their PITs:

Aftermarket Item	# Responses	%*
Additional Mirrors	5	36%
Additional Lights	4	29%
Backup Cameras	0	0
Halo Lights	0	0
Perimeter Sensor Alarms	0	0
Other Safety Additions	2	14%
No Response	1	7%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Perception of Items Implemented.

The following are respondents' perceptions of the effectiveness of the aftermarket safety items:

Perception	# Responses	%*
I feel these additions help reduce/prevent incidents/accidents	9	64%
I feel these additions are burdensome and may actually increase the chance of incidents/accidents	0	0%
I do not feel these additions prevent nor increase incidents/accidents (no effect)	3	21%
No Answer	1	7%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Maintenance

In-house versus 3rd party maintenance:

Maintenance	# Responses	%*
In-House	6	43%
3 rd Party	6	43%
No Response	2	14%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Inspections

Frequency of Inspections.

Frequency	# Responses	%*
Each operator must fully inspect prior to use, even on the same shift	2	14%
One operator must inspect once per shift	3	21%
One Operator Must Inspect Daily	6	43%
We do not specify frequency of inspection	1	7%
No Response	2	14%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Documentation of Inspections.

Frequency	# Responses	%*
We require that the prior-to-use inspection(s) be documented	1	7%
We do not require that the prior-to-use inspection(s) be documented	7	50%
We require documentation of formal inspections performed by 3 rd parties	2	14%
Paper inspection forms/checklists are used to document inspections	3	21%
Apps, computers, or smart devices are used to document inspections	1	7%

*out of 14 employers surveyed

Operation in Classified Atmospheres

Number of respondents whose employees operate in classified atmospheres: 0.

Outdated Regulations

Respondents were asked: Is there Anything in the current OSHA PIT regulations that you feel is outdated, inefficient, unnecessary, or overly Burdensome? If so, explain why and any possible solutions; there were 5 responses, none had issue with the current PIT regulations.

Upcoming Regulations

Respondents were asked: Are there any regulatory changes OSHA should look to make that will improve worker safety involving PITs? One respondent said that documented daily inspections should be mandated.