

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
Division of Labor
Office of Occupational Safety and Health
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

OSH Program Directive Number 77-1910.178-2

Subject: Article VI, Section 1910.178 (m) (12) (ii) as applied to Industrial Powered Trucks.

Standard: Article VI, Section 1910.178 (m) (12) (ii), Rules and Regulations, Commissioner of Labor, State of South Carolina.

Cross Reference to Federal Standards: 29 CFR 1910.178 (m) (12) (ii)

Background: Several inquiries have been received regarding the intent of the referred standard.

- a. Both ANSI B56.1-1969 and ANSI B56.1-1975 clearly defines the types of industrial powered trucks. In each case only one configuration in which the operating controls are so located that the operator and the forks move together, which is the “order picker truck, high lift”. The definition of this industrial truck is the same in both editions of the ANSI Standard and states:

“A high-lift truck controllable by the operator stationed on a platform moveable with the load engaging means and intended for (manual) stock selection. The truck may be capable of self-loading and/or tiering.”
- b. Paragraph 1910.178 (q) (6) of the standards and paragraph 503 of the 1969 edition and paragraph 501 of the 1975 edition of ANSI B56.1 prohibits modification of an industrial truck without prior approval of the manufacturer. Therefore the only industrial truck which would have the controls elevatable is the order picker truck, high lift type.
- c. Section 1910.178 (m) (12) (ii) is identical to paragraph 603L (b) of ANSI B56.1-1969 and was intended to protect the operator of order picker trucks during routine operations. Paragraph 513 of ANSI B56.1-1975 expands this paragraph to provide for the elevating of personnel with an industrial powered truck.

Interpretation:

- a. Section 1910.178 (m) (12) (ii) cannot be used to require employers to install elevatable controls on other than order picker truck, high lift types.
- b. Based on the requirements of Section 1910.178 and both editions of the ANSI B56.1, only the high lift order picker type industrial truck could have the controls elevatable without special authorization by the manufacturer. If elevatable controls are installed on any other type of industrial powered truck, then that truck must meet the control criteria established for order picker type industrial trucks in Section 1910.178(m) (12). In addition, there must also be documentation, available by the employer, that the modification was accomplished by and/or approved by the manufacturer.
- c. Our State OSH policy is that personnel could be elevated on other types of high lift industrial powered trucks provided:
 - (1) That a substantial platform with guardrails is secured to the backrest or lifting carriage.
 - (2) That the operator of the industrial truck remain in the operating position at all times while personnel are on the platform.
 - (3) That overhead protection be provided for the platform as well as the operator of the industrial truck where overhead exposures are present.

Effective Date: This instruction is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by amendment to the Rules and Regulations.

William M. Lybrand, Director
July 25, 1977