This safety resource was written for the scrap industry by the scrap industry and was developed to assist you in making your scrap operation a safe place for employees, customers, and visitors. This resource covers OSHA requirements that may or may not be applicable to your operation.

## FRONT END LOADER

**DEFINITION:** Motorized vehicle designed for moving material with a hydraulically controlled shovel or bucket.

## **Potential Hazards:**

- Dust
- Exhaust fumes
- Falls
- Falling materials
- Fire
- Rollover
- Fuel vapors
- Moving parts
- Noise
- Pinch points
- Oil, fuel, motor and hydraulic fluids

## Guarding/Shielding:

- Operators cab should be guarded or shielded against flying materials impact
- Moving mechanical components should be guarded to prevent accidental contact
- End loaders used to charge a furnace should have either safety glass or wire mesh shield in front of the operator and a solid roof
- Fuel tanks, hydraulic lines, and valves should be guarded to prevent impact by materials, objects, equipment or people

## **Protective Equipment:**

Hard hats\*
Safety glasses\*
Steel toe/steel shank work boots\*
Gloves as needed
Respirator as needed
\*minimum requirements

## **Safety Procedures:**

- Lockout/Tagout procedures must be in lae for any equipment maintenance activity
- Steps or ladders to gain access to cab must be slip resistant, with handholds installed
- Written daily inspection procedures and checklist must be completed before daily use



- When unattended, vehicle should be turned off, brakes set, bucket/shovel on ground, and gears engaged. Vehicle must only be left on level ground.
- If backup alarm not installed, operator must sound horn when backing vehicle
- No one will be allowed to ride on vehicle anywhere but in designated seat(s) equipped with seat belt.
- Operator must slow and sound horn when crossing roads/aisles and other locations where vision might be obstructed.
- Bucket/Shovel must never be used as a work platform.
- Vehicle must be shut off during any fueling activity.
- Fueling can only be performed away from hot areas where sources of ignition might be present.
- Areas designated for battery charging or removal and maintenance must have facilities for emergency eye wash, spill control/neutralization, fire protection and protection from other moving equipment or personnel.
- Battery charging procedures must be posted at designated area and include,
  - Park loader in proper position with brake set;
  - Acid should be poured into water, not water into acid;
  - Battery compartments and covers should be open during charging to dissipate heat. Vent caps should be functioning;
  - Smoking must be prohibited in charging area;
  - Precautions must be taken to prevent sparks or sources of ignition near battery charging operations;
  - Adequate ventilation must be assured in charging area.
- Loader must not be used to unload or load vehicles when people are in the vehicle
- Operator must be familiar with overhead clearances between vehicle and power lines, bridges, pipelines, and other overhead structures
- Operator must wear seatbelt and obey posted speed limits
- Slow moving vehicles must be escorted when travelling on public streets. Escort vehicle must travel behind the loader, with emergency flashers operating
- Operator must use three-points of contact when entering or exiting cab
- Operator must face equipment when climbing onto or off of the equipment
- Operator must not use control levers as handholds



- Operator must not jump off vehicle onto ground, scrap materials, or debris.
- Operators with potential for exposure to hazardous materials including carbon monoxide, toxic fumes and particulates or nuisance dusts must have their exposure assessed and monitored following the locations written exposure management program. Consult the applicable industrial hygiene guides for current exposure limits, monitoring methods and exposure reduction options.

# Forklift operator Checklist

Inspected by: Date:	Yes	No	N/A
Is protection (grills, canopies, screens) provided to shield operator from falling or flying objects?			
Is adequate rollover protection provided?			
Are seat belts provided?			
Are only designated qualified operators being assigned to operate this equipment?			
Does the unit have a suitable fire extinguisher?			
Is there an effective working reverse alarm?			
Are moving parts, shafts, chains, sprockets, belts, etc. guarded?			
Is protection against contact with hot surfaces, exhaust, etc. provided?			
Are all screens, guards, shields in place and effective?			
Is a safe means of access to the cab provided (steps, grab bars, non-slip surfaces)?			
Are sufficient lights for night operations provided?			
Are fuel tanks located in a manner to prevent spills or overflows from running onto engine exhaust or electrical equipment?			
Are exhaust discharges from equipment so directed that they do not endanger persons or obstruct the view of the operator			
Are the brakes and emergency brake in proper working order?			
Are inspection records kept available?			