



taylor fire resistant hydraulic fluids industrial trucks



BLT, exclusive distributors of Taylor industrial trucks in Africa, recommends that fire resistant hydraulic fluids be used as alternative to standard petroleum oil in hot load environments.

"Improper use of powered industrial trucks operating in hazardous industries can result in fires, causing serious injury to personnel and extensive damage to property," says Clinton van den Berg, products manager for BLT. "Because petroleum oil can ignite and burn if it comes into contact with hot surfaces, we advise that fire resistant hydraulic fluids, like water glycol, be used as an alternative. Hydraulic media is recommended in powered industrial trucks operating in industrial sites involving aluminium, steel smelting or forging operations. Hydraulic fluids are also advised for trucks working near wood and brick kilns, where temperatures are elevated.

"For optimum safety, no loads with temperatures in excess of 232,2°C should ever be carried, unless the truck is equipped with fire resistant hydraulic media. Work practices should also be implemented where the duration of contact between the powered industrial truck and hot loads is limited. For optimum safety and cost efficiency, we recommend transporting a hot load to its destination on a specially designed trailer and unloading it with the powered industrial truck"

BLT is able to convert an existing petroleum based forklift system, to a water glycol system. This involves the installation of specialist equipment on the existing machine, supported by a regular maintenance programme. It is critical, because of evaporation, that water levels are closely monitored.

Hydraulic hoses can also become worn and frayed over time - especially if subjected to high temperatures - and must be replaced. All hydraulic fittings must be kept tight and leak-free.

BLT's service enables powered industrial trucks to be used safely used in hot load environments, but it is critical that measures are still taken to avoid potentially dangerous situations. Companies should choose forklift travel routes for optimum pedestrian safety and it is also critical to keep industrial trucks away from high temperatures in industrial operations.

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For further information Clinton van den Berg, Products Manager, **Big Lift Trucks**

PO Box 12392, Jacobs, 4026

Telephone (031) 274 8270

Fax (031) 205 8002

Email clinton@biglift.co.za

Web www.biglifttrucks.com