

# Careers in the Supply Chain

## **FORKLIFT OPERATOR**

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**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**

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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**

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

## **Job Functions**

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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

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- 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

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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.

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## Pre-employment Skills

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- 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

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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

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- 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](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential_skills/general/home.shtml)