



Safe Work Procedure		Handling and Storing Inventory	
Department / Area: Physical Plant Services	Approved By: Regional Manager of Physical	Date Created: September 5 2014	Review Date:
	Plant Services		Revised date:
Potential Hazards:		Personal protective equipment / devices	
Fill in those that apply		required / other safety considerations:	
H M L Risk for Injury		Gloves when handling sharp of jagged items or	
Awkward postures - bending, reaching		when there is a risk of pinches	
Forceful exertions - lifting heavy items		Protective closed toe footwear	
Pinch points		Cart, dolly, or wheeler to move heavy goods	
Materials falling		Heavier items should be stored between hip to	
Surfaces causing falls		shoulder height to reduce bending	
Moving machinery - doors on trucks, moving the lift Repetitive Movements – opening boxes, stocking Sharp points / edges – box edges, utility knife Compression Vibration		➤ 2-Person lift	
		Training / Reference Information:	
		SCHIPP Module 1 training	
		See also Manual Materials Handling SWP	
		➤ MSDS Training	
		Transportation of Dangerous Goods	
		Documentation	
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Note: Signs and symptoms of a musculoskeletal injury (MSI) can include pain, burning, swelling, stiffness numbness/tingling, and/or loss of movement or strength in a body part. Report these to your supervisor.

Employers must ensure that workers are trained and follow this safe work procedure. Steps to perform this task safely:

- Assess the load. Do not attempt to lift or carry heavy or awkward items by yourself. Use lift aid (cart, 2 wheeler, etc.) or get assistance.
- > Store heavier items or most frequently used items between hips and chest to reduce bending and to allow safer body positioning for moving heavier loads.
- ➤ Use stairs if items are beyond a comfortable reach or if reaching is repetitive.
- If you must slide material closer or away from you, try to keep your back straight and weight shift with your whole body rather than using only your arms.
- ➤ If possible, ensure there is enough room to lift properly and travel by moving obstructions.
- > Proper lifting and carrying technique is to:
 - > Use a wide stance either side to side or front to back (lunge position). Get close to what you have to lift.
 - > Get a good grip before lifting or lowering with both hands if possible.
 - Bend your knees and hips.
 - > Try to keep your back straight, shoulders back and elbows in.
 - Lift by pushing with your legs. If using a lunge position, push more through your front leg.
 - Don't hold your breath.
 - > Keep the load close to your body when lifting or carrying.
 - Turn by taking small steps with your feet. Avoid twisting your back when lifting, lowering, carrying or pushing and pulling.
- If a load is to go or is to be pulled from a high shelf within a standing reach, keep elbows in line with the body and extra tightening of the abdominal can help keep the back from arching backward excessively.