



Safe Work Procedure

HANDLING AND STORING INVENTORY

Safe Work Procedure		HANDLING AND STORING INVENTORY	
Department / Area: Logistics and Supply Chain Management	Approved By: Regional Manager of Logistics and Supply Chain Management	Date Created:	Review / Revised date: May 2014
Potential Hazards: Fill in those that apply		Personal protective equipment / devices required / other safety considerations	
H M L risk for injury Awkward postures – bending, reaching Forceful exertions – lifting heavy items Repetitive movements – opening boxes, stocking Compression Sharp points / edges – box edges, utility knife Pinch points Materials falling Surfaces causing falls Moving machinery		-Gloves when handling sharp or jagged items or when there is risk of pinches -Protective closed toe footwear -Cart, dolly, or wheeler to move heavy goods -Heavier items should be stored between hip to shoulder height to reduce bending	
		Training / Reference information	
		-Module 1 SCHIPP Orientation -See also Manual Materials Handling SWP	

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 & pulling
- If a load is to go or is to pulled from a high shelf within a standing reach, keep elbows in line with the body and extra tightening of the abdominals can help keep the back from arching backward excessively