



## May 8 — Doesn't Look Right

<b>Mast on the forklift looked goofy after further investigation I noticed that the fork pockets were stretched and wallowed out. The weld where the fork is attached to the fork pocket had begun to crack</b>	<b>Notified supervisor of the issue and new mast was going to be delivered</b>
---	--

It didn't fail. It didn't collapse. It just didn't look right.

Something was off in the way the mast sat. Not obvious at first just enough to catch attention. That pause made the difference. A closer look showed the issue. The fork pockets were stretched. The weld at the attachment point had started to crack. That's not something that fixes itself.

Equipment doesn't usually fail all at once. It gives signs first. Small ones. Subtle ones. And it's easy to ignore them.

The machine is still running. It's still lifting. The job is still moving. But structural damage doesn't stay the same. Under load, under stress, it gets worse. And when it lets go, it's not gradual. It's immediate.

The equipment was taken out of service and replaced before that could happen. Because recognizing the problem early is what prevents the failure later. This wasn't about something breaking. It was about catching it before it did.

### Hazards

- Structural failure of equipment
- Dropped or shifting load
- Equipment instability
- Struck-by or crush injuries
- Line of fire exposure to mechanical and gravity energy

### Stats

- Equipment failures often show warning signs before major incidents
- Structural defects increase risk significantly under load
- Many serious incidents involve equipment that had known issues beforehand
- Early reporting and removal from service prevent escalation

### Words of Wisdom

- If it doesn't look right, it isn't right
- Equipment doesn't fix itself
- Catch it early or deal with it later
- 

### Pause and Think

We get used to seeing the same equipment every day. The same machines, the same sounds, the same movement.

That familiarity makes it harder to notice when something changes.

And when something feels "just a little off," it's easy to keep going. Because nothing has failed yet.

But that's the moment that matters.

- Do I stop when something doesn't look right?
- Am I paying attention to small changes in equipment condition?
- Do I assume it's fine because it's still working?
- Would I take it out of service — or keep using it?