SHARP START

April 17 — Not Meant for That

While moving a fuel tank the chokers were put on the forks instead of using the jib for the forklift.	**Did not stop the work because by that time the workers were taking the chokers off**

While moving a fuel tank, chokers were placed directly over the forklift forks instead of using the proper jib attachment.

The load was already being handled. The setup was in motion.

Nothing failed. But that doesn't mean it was right.

Forklift forks aren't designed to be lifting points for rigging like that. Without the proper attachment, the load isn't centered, the connection isn't secure, and the equipment isn't being used the way it was intended.

That changes how the load behaves.

It can shift. It can slide. It can react differently than expected.

And when that happens, the people around it are the ones exposed.

This wasn't a complete breakdown. It was a shortcut.

A setup that was "close enough" to get the job done until something changes and it isn't.

Hazards

- Load shift due to improper rigging
- Unstable lifting point
- Slippage from forks
- Struck-by from moving or falling load
- Equipment misuse
- Line of fire exposure to gravity and mechanical energy

Stats

- Improper rigging is a leading cause of lifting incidents
- Many lifting-related injuries occur due to incorrect attachment points
- Loads that are not centered increase instability and risk
- Equipment misuse is a common factor in struck-by incidents

Words of Wisdom

- Close enough isn't safe enough
- Use the right attachment for the job
- If it's not set up right, it won't act right

Pause and Think

When a setup works once, it's easy to accept it as a workable solution. You get the load moved, nothing goes wrong, and it starts to feel like a valid way to do the job. That's how shortcuts take hold. Not because they're safe but because they didn't fail last time.

The problem is that lifting doesn't need much to go wrong. A small shift, a slight imbalance, or the wrong connection point can change everything.

And when it does, it happens fast.

- Am I using the correct attachment points for lifting?
- Is my setup designed for control, or just convenience?
- Would I trust this setup every time or just this once?
- Am I relying on past success instead of proper setup?