

	Engineering Guidance Paper	Document AFITA-018	Page 1/1
	Disabling or removal of Seatbelt Interlock	Version Date 01.2025	Rev 2

SCOPE

The Guidance Paper is intended to clarify the requirement around the industrial truck (forktruck) sequential seatbelt interlock system.

Safety features are incorporated into the industrial truck design, to comply with the governing design standards, and legislative requirements. There are risks associated with modifying safety features fitted to industrial trucks.

Removal or tampering with safety features may have unintended consequences / outcomes in operation.

Introduction

Australian Standard AS2359.1-2019 covering industrial trucks, requires that industrial trucks with a seat belt are to include a sequential interlock to ensure the operator presence on the seat is detected prior to the seatbelt being connected in order to allow the truck to drive.

The sequential seatbelt interlock requirement was introduced in AS2359.1-2015, and industrial trucks placed into operation prior to its coming into effect may not include this feature.

Sequential Seatbelt Interlock

The sequential seatbelt interlock should not be disabled or removed.

Note

In the limited situation where operational requirements make the use of the sequential interlock not practicable, then the user must undertake a comprehensive Risk Assessment to address any actual and perceived risks associated with disabling the sequential seatbelt interlock.

Users should then consult with the WHS authority in the local jurisdiction regarding the Risk Assessment outcome prior to implementing any changes.

END

Australian Forklift and Industrial Truck Association

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Original Version date: 11/2018