

ForkSmith

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WWW.FORKSMITH.CO.NZ

Who is ForkSmith?

ForkSmith is a private business, offering consultative services and operator training for materials handling equipment and processes.

The aim of the business is to provide a total service to any customer on the sourcing, installation management, commissioning and operational training of materials handling equipment.

With over 40 years being involved with servicing, installation, training and management within the materials handling equipment industry in Australasia, this business has the ability to provide a completely independent, up to date analysis of any materials handling issues that may arise for any company - whether it be a single operator or a large multinational enterprise.

A large network of established contacts is available to this business to carry out any analysis which may include pricing, selection, application, installation, information on regulations and standards and the applicable training to support any proposal that this business may offer.

ForkSmith receives no commission or payment from any supplier, agent or dealer for endorsement of any product or service that they may offer during the entire consultative process. This ensures that the customer gets a completely independent and unbiased analysis.

The advantage of utilising the services of ForkSmith is that the business is purely a consulting, commissioning and training company, meaning no middle man transactions, which lower the final cost of any equipment purchase. There is also no forced purchase of surplus equipment that will not be required, as in some package deals that are on the market.

Dealing with ForkSmith allows you to design and purchase your own hybrid systems, or equipment, using all the advantages of any of the systems that are available and compatible.

ForkSmith offers a three part process to any consultation and they are as follows:

- 1. Consultative and analysis process only**

This process consists of liaison with all concerned with the complete operation to be analysed, which may include senior and middle management personnel, and the operational staff involved in the task. The analysis will be compiled and delivered in both hard copy and electronically. If desired a full presentation can also be arranged to concerned parties, so any questions, queries and suggestions can be discussed in full.

- 2. Consultative, installation management and commissioning**

This is the complete process in which the customer wishes to have both the consultative and analysis process to be combined with installation management and commissioning.

- 3. Training**

Training is available for all aspects of forklift operation, or on any materials handling equipment that the customer requires. The instructor is registered as a Work Safe NZ Trainer, to 'operator's certificate' level.

Traction battery training is also available for both operational training and basic maintenance training.

Training

Training in the operational environment in most companies today is a vital part of that company's operation. The same training given to an operator of any materials handling equipment more than two years ago may now be obsolete with the change in both government legislation, and the design of equipment that is available to be utilised - whether it be owned, leased or hired by any company.

The training given to operators of materials handling equipment has been an afterthought for many years by a majority of companies and is normally given as a result of forced legislative requirements and/or to satisfy insurance obligations.

Most companies only give the basic training to satisfy this legislation and requirement, and rely on the operator to already have the training required. The question to be asked then is - where do the operators get their training and experience before starting their employment with a new company?

It has been proven that the biggest asset a company can have is its employees. If the employee is trained sufficiently to carry out the tasks they are set, the chances of personal accidents, damage to equipment and product, and efficient, on time production schedules are easily obtained. This results in production/sales targets to be met, and budget targets to be achieved. Stress levels across the company are reduced and a successful company is the result.

Employee retention is greatly enhanced when the correct training courses are implemented to suit the type of equipment and operation to be carried out.



On Site Training

The type of training offered by ForkSmith is 'on the job' based training, carried out on customers sites, utilising the equipment that the operator will be using during their daily tasking. This allows the training to be directed at the equipment and not training the operator to be useful to another employer.

Why should a trainee be taught the in depth operation of an internal combustion powered forklift when they will be using an electric powered forklift? The Department of Labour's operator's courses, when completed, allows the certificate holder to operate all types of forklifts no matter what type of motive power, but does not effectively go into detail on the specific differences between these forklifts. ForkSmith training is designed to effectively target the equipment of choice to the company.

Having being trained as an Instructor by the New Zealand Defence Force, and spending a number of years in the Army's Trade Training School as a Trade Instructor, the basis of the training given by ForkSmith is focused on, 'if you know how it works, you can learn how to use it'. The course content is based exactly on the principle that if you are shown how a forklift works, you will learn how to achieve competency as a forklift operator, which is the aim of the course.

The training supplied is based on a working experience both operating, and repairing, all types of forklifts for more than 38 years, not 'experience' achieved out of reading a training book.

Specific training for specific equipment can enhance the production output and maximise the investment dollar, as in the majority of cases, the equipment has never been used as it was intended, indeed the extras that have been paid for in the purchase price have never been utilised at the operational level, and specific training on company equipment can overcome this anomaly.

Assessment

ForkSmith can provide operator assessments, based on the criteria laid out as per the Work Safe NZ Code of Practice for forklift operators, and can offer additional criteria required by customer management. All operators being assessed are informed of the whole process and are assessed carrying out their daily tasking on their allocated equipment.

The operator will be shown the assessment result in an informal meeting which will consist of the operator, their manager and the assessor. Any criteria that need to be addressed as a result of this assessment can be discussed at the informal meeting.

This form of assessment may also be carried out as an assessment for pre-employment.

Course Information

ForkSmith offer three types of Forklift Operator Courses, these being Beginner, Basic and Refresher. All courses are designed to be carried out on the client's site, where the equipment that the students are trained on is the same type of equipment that the company will be tasking these students in their employment within that company.

Beginners Course

This course is designed for students with no prior experience with forklifts, and who the company is prepared to invest in the potential of the student to complete this course.

The course is carried out on the duration of two days, and successful students will leave this course as competent operators in the basic skills as forklift drivers. The theory phase will normally involve duration of five to six hours - with at least two and a half hours practical, one-on-one training per student. There is a maximum of four students on this course to allow for in depth training.

Basic Course

The Basic course offered by ForkSmith is the most common course selected and is designed for operators who have, at some time, had an operator's certificate but it has expired, or who have had experience on forklifts, but never had a Department Of Labour / Work Safe NZ Operator's Certificate. This course consists of up to four hours theory, depending on numbers, and a minimum of twenty minutes practical training and assessment. There is a minimum of 4 students and a maximum of 10 students on this course.

Refresher Course

This course is designed for current operators, who have their Operator's Certificate but wish to renew the certificate before the expiry date. Students on this course must have a current certificate, or those who have booked a course with ForkSmith for training as their certificate expires. Any expiry date of more than a month in duration will require the student to sit a basic course.

Equipment Provided For Courses Run On Customer Sites

Customers may provide any type of equipment for training and assessment during these three courses. The Department of Labour Certificate does not differentiate between different types of forklifts that the student is to be assessed on competency, but generalises all forklifts. If the company requires some students to be assessed on reach trucks, rather than electric counterbalance or internal combustion trucks, then that is a decision for the company. ForkSmith will train students on all forms of forklifts to a competent standard.

2025 Pricing Schedule

Courses conducted outside the Canterbury area will incur a cost of \$200.00 for travel and meals

Forklift Operators Course Costing

Beginners Course

\$600.00 plus GST

Basic Course (Minimum 5 participants)

\$175.00 plus GST

Refresher Course (Minimum 5 participants)

\$145.00 plus GST

"F" Endorsement

\$165.00 plus GST

Additional courses on offer:

Electric Pallet Jack (Jiffy) Training

\$55.00 per person

Minimum 4 people / Maximum 10 people

This 'Jiffy' course covers the operation and safety aspects of Jiffy operation.

(As this type of equipment encompasses a powered lifting device, a forklift operator's certificate should be required to be able to legally operate this equipment)

Operator Assessment (Internal) / (Pre-Employment)

Price to be determined at time of final criteria agreement.

Supervisor Forklift Training (Internal)

Price to be determined at time of final assessment criteria agreement.

Employment Material Handling Pre-Assessment

Price to be determined at time of final assessment criteria agreement.

ALL PRICES QUOTED IN THIS SCHEDULE ARE EXCLUDING GST UNLESS NOTED

Please note that there cannot be two types of Forklift Operators courses run at the same time. Students on a 'refresher' course must have proof of a current operator's certificate, and that certificate must not have been expired for more than one calendar month if it has expired. These students with expired certificates longer than one calendar month will need to sit a basic course.

QUOTED PRICES

Where a quote for a course is accepted via an Order Number, the quoted price will be charged unless ForkSmith is advised prior to 48 hours of the course commencing that there will be a variation in numbers or cancellation.

TERMS OF PAYMENT ARE STRICTLY SEVEN DAYS