

Tool Box Talk

Powered Mobile Equipment

Powered Mobile Equipment (PME) Hazard Assessment

As described in Part 11 of the *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulations, 2020*, powered mobile equipment (PME), “is any self-propelled machine or a combination of machines, including a prime mover, that is designed to manipulate or move materials, or to provide a work platform for workers.”

Before any work begins, a hazard assessment should be documented to recognize safety concerns for every piece of machinery.

Powered Mobile Equipment Site Evaluation

Owners and operators have responsibilities for the safety of workers and the general public. To ensure that no accidents occur, operators should perform a site evaluation.

A proper site evaluation should consider the following: route, clearance, ground conditions, workers, structures, power lines, other services and other equipment.

Who Can Operate Powered Mobile Equipment?

Only individuals who are deemed competent by the employer are allowed to operate PME. Every piece of equipment is different and requires a different set of skills. Therefore, being deemed competent on one type of PME does not permit an operator to use all types of PME. *The Saskatchewan Employment Act (Table 11)* defines what training a PME operator should have. This includes the understanding of:

- Proper operation of powered mobile equipment
- Risk assessment of visual inspection
- Protection of workers
- Duties of employers and operators

There is no formal licensing system in Saskatchewan for PME operators. It is the responsibility of the employer to ensure the operator is competent and possesses the minimum requirements listed in Table 11. Find further information on PME in Part 11 of the *OHS Regulations*.

SCSA PME Checklist Sample			
Item	O.K.	Requires Action	Comments
Brakes			
Steering			
Tires			
Air Tanks			
Fluid Levels			
Engine Belts			
Suspension (front & back)			
Hoist Rams			
Main Frame			
Body Dump			
Lights			
Glass			
Handrails			
Ladders			
Seat Belts			
Fire Extinguishers			
Back Up Alarm			