LIFT GATE SAFETY

Actsafe's Toolbox Talks are intended as an informational resource for employers and supervisors to use to deliver a safety talk on a specific subject. A toolbox talk can be an effective way of refreshing workers' knowledge of safe work procedures and sharing information from more experienced workers.

Lift Gate Safety

A Lift Gate, sometimes referred to as a tailgate, is an electric or hydraulic device mounted at the back of a vehicle. It is used to load and unload equipment and could be harmful if not used properly. Some common injures include pinched, crushed or amputated fingers or toes, slips or falls from height, being struck by the tailgate and equipment falling off the tailgate.

To prevent incidents, workers need appropriate training on how to operate the lift gate correctly.

Safe Work Practices

- Check safety signs, labels and capacity ratings before operating. Some liftgates prohibit workers from riding on the platform with a load while raising or lowering it.
- Check the lift gate; look for damage and defects and do not operate if damage is identified.
- Check the ground that the lift platform will land on. Make sure it's level and firm.
- Be aware of slipping hazards on the platform, such as rain, ice, snow and oils.
- Be aware of the pinch points, especially when you are moving the platform up and down. Canadian Standard Approved (CSA) approved footwear (steel-toed shoes) are a must when working on a lift gate.
- Make sure the loads are safe and secure on the platform before raising or lowering the platform.
- Divide the weight of the load evenly on the platform.
- Do not jump off the platform, wait until the platform is at rest on the ground.

Never leave a liftgate raised halfway and use an apple box as a step. Either raise or lower the platform completely or stow the platform when not in use.

Ask for help if you need to and do not operate the lift gate if you do not have the training to do so.

Attendees (attach Sign-in Sheet if needed):

Name	Initials	Name	Initials