STANDARD SAFETY PROCEDURES

INSPECTION AND USE OF JACK STANDS

OBJECTIVE: To facilitate safe operations in GSE shops when using jack stands.

Every employee that utilizes a jack stand during the course of his assigned duties must perform an equipment inspection prior to use. The minimum inspection procedures are as follows.

1. Ensure the jack stand load rating is adequate for the job being performed. If no load rating can be found destroy jack stand and discard immediately.
2. Inspect the base of jack stand for structural integrity. Base should be free of any damaged or bent structural supports.
3. If jack stand is of ratchet type, inspect the ratchet bar for missing teeth, cracks, build up of paint. If found destroy jack stand and discard immediately.
4. Inspect the saddle for cracks, bends, or excessive wear.
5. Ensure locking handle or load pin are operational.

Once inspection is complete, the following steps will be followed to ensure the safe use of jack stands. After jacking vehicles, the use of jack stands is mandatory. Never work under a vehicle that is supported solely by a vehicle jack.

1. Two or more jack stands will be used whenever more than one side of the vehicle is to be lifted.
2. If possible, remove all loads from vehicle to ensure an unexpected load shift does not occur.
3. Chock both wheels of unaffected vehicle end.
4. Jack vehicle and position jack stand in desired location. Ensure jack stand rests on a level surface. Ensure the jack stand saddle does not rest of the base. Ratchet teeth or load pin must be utilized.
5. Lower vehicle onto jack stand. Never lower jack when an employee is under the vehicle.

Allow for a clear path of escape if equipment should become unstable.

Note: Use blocking/cribbing when applicable.

Jack stands shall be stenciled with an identification number.
Jack stands shall be inspected and documented on a semi-annual basis.

Failure to comply with the above, shall constitute a violation of company policy.
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