

## Pallet manufacturer fined over forklift strike

**A manufacturer of wooden products has been sentenced after a worker was struck by a forklift truck at its site on Woodford Park Industrial Estate in Winsford, Cheshire.**

Manchester and Salford Magistrates' Court was told that Mid Cheshire Pallets had failed to provide adequate segregation between pedestrians and moving vehicles.

On 17 March 2017, an employee was carrying a pallet across the workshop when he was struck by the forklift. He sustained serious fractures to his leg and ankle and was off work for several months.

Investigating, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found there was inadequate segregation of forklifts and workers who were moving around on foot. It said the company had carried out a risk assessment but overlooked the importance of marked vehicle and pedestrian areas.

Mid Cheshire Pallets pleaded guilty to breaching ss 2(1) and 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act. It has been fined £6,500 and ordered to pay costs of £7,362.

HSE inspector Jane Carroll said: *"If a suitable system of work had been in place, the injuries sustained by this employee could have been prevented."*



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