

Characteristics of material handling that contribute to intrinsic hazard potentialia...

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The paper " Characteristics of Material Handling that Contribute to Intrinsic Hazard Potential" is an outstanding example of an essay on engineering and construction. The mass of an object being lifted, hoisted or carried from one place to another is a major determinant of the material's intrinsic hazard. The bulkiness of the load being lifted has been implicated in back pains and dangerous falls among workers as a result of the workers being forced to assume awkward positions. When the task of material handling involves either movement over long distances or movement in awkward positions, the intrinsic hazards of the material are increased. For example, a considerably light material may be overwhelming over a long distance. Back injuries, body aches, and falls are likely associated with a motion that involves twisting or bending the trunk, neck or arms. Fire hazards also accompany motion when dealing with inflammable substances. Tasks involving materials that are difficult to grasp increase the hazards of material handling especially when it is manual. This involves materials that are either unbalanced or having sharp ends and edges. Slippage may be encountered causing injuries to self or fellow workers. If such materials are inflammable the risk of fire is also raised when falls occur. The environment is another main contributor to the hazard potential of material during handling. Examples of cases in which falls, being struck, fires and back pains could result as a result of the environment include where there is a small space forcing one to take awkward body positions and imbalance the load in a bid to maneuver through. Slippery and uneven floors may result in falls and fires when lifting loads alongside poor lighting and humid or rainy weather.