



SPEC MIX Bulk Bag Handling & Lifting Procedures

The following flexible intermediate bulk container (bulk bag) lifting and handling procedures are specifically stated for safe use and operation when utilizing SPEC MIX Silo Delivery Systems. SPEC MIX bulk bags are specifically designed for use with construction job site fork trucks. SPEC MIX bulk bags are manufactured and tested to exceed industry safety specifications. To ensure the safety of all construction site personnel, please read and follow these practices and procedures when handling SPEC MIX bulk bags. Work smart, work safe!

1. When transporting bulk bags, only move the bag while seated on a pallet. The boom of the fork truck should be fully retracted. Do not transport bulk bags around the jobsite suspended from its lifting straps.
2. To load the SPEC MIX silo, first position the bulk bag on the pallet directly in front of the SPEC MIX silo so it is lined up with the fill port on the top of the silo. At this point the fork truck's front tires should be no more than 12 feet from the silo's front legs. Always adhere to the fork truck manufacturers load chart when lifting bulk bags. A SPEC MIX bulk bag weighs 3000 pounds.
3. To lift the bulk bag, slowly remove the fork tines from the pallet supporting the bulk bag. Before inserting the forks into the lifting loops, inspect the tines of the fork truck to ensure there are no rough edges. If a rough edge is found, file or grind the rough edge to remove any burs. Make sure to apply the parking brake and shut down the fork truck before inspecting, adjusting or working on fork tines.
4. Place the fork truck in neutral and apply the parking break. Then slowly lift the fork tines of the fork truck to a position where the tines are in line with the bag's front two lifting straps, yet just over the top of the bulk bag. Remove the protective outer plastic cover



from the bulk bag to inspect the integrity all four lifting straps of the bag.

NOTE: To increase the flow and discharge speed of the bag's content while filling the silo, untie and open the bag's top fill spout.

5. Once the fork tines are in position, apply the parking break and turn off the fork truck. It is now safe for the assistant to approach the fork truck and manually slide the bag's lifting straps over the fork tines. Always approach the side of the fork tine, do not stand in front of the fork tines.
6. Once the lift straps are securely positioned on the fork tines the assistant should step safely away from the bulk bag and fork tines before the fork truck is started and any movement of the fork truck begins.
7. Before the next set of lifting straps can be slid over the fork tines, while the tines are still in the proper position, the forklift operator should position the forks forward so the tips of the fork tines are directly above the bag's second set of lifting straps.
8. Once the forks are in position, apply the parking brake and turn off the fork truck. It is now safe to approach the fork truck and manually slide the bag's lifting straps over the fork tines. Always approach the side of the fork tine, do not stand in front of the fork tines.
9. The assistant should ensure the bag's front lifting straps are slid back to the vertical rise at the rear of the fork tines and position the lifting straps so each is directly above the point at which it connects to the bulk bag.
10. When the lifting straps are properly positioned on the fork tines, the assistant should step safely away from the bulk bag and fork truck before it is started and any movement of the fork truck begins.
11. The bulk bag should be slowly lifted off the pallet. If the plastic outer cover is still around the bulk bag, the operator should place the fork truck in neutral, then apply the parking brake and turn off



the fork truck to allow the assistant to safely remove the outer cover from the bulk bag.

NOTE: For product quality control measures the attached manufacturer batch ticket can be kept as a permanent record of the material in the bulk bag.

12. To lift the bulk bag over the SPEC MIX Silo, the fork truck operator must place the fork truck in neutral, apply the parking brake and level the machine. The operator can then slowly raise the fork truck boom until the bottom of the bulk bag is slightly above the top of the silo. Next, extend the boom until the bag's discharge chute is directly above the silo's fill port and safety ring located atop the silo. Once the bag is in position, the operator should verify that the fork truck is in neutral and the parking brake is applied, then turn off the fork truck so the assistant can safely climb the silo ladder to dispense the bulk bag's contents into the silo from the silo's safety platform. While standing on the platform, the assistant must attach and secure both safety chains on the loading platform before opening the fill port lid on the silo.



13. To open and discharge the bulk bag into the silo, use the bulk bag hook to pull and open the first B-lock closure on the bag's outer chute. **CAUTION: The bulk bag hook should only be inserted under the silo safety ring mounted above the fill port, not above. Always keep hands and arms clear of the area below the bulk bag.** Follow the same procedure to open the bag's inner discharge chute to allow material flow.



14. When all the contents of the bag have been emptied, the assistant can close the silo fill port and the fork truck operator can safely return the empty bag back to its original pallet for jobsite removal. Once the fork truck boom is safely in a lowered position over the original pallet, the assistant can safely climb down the ladder from the loading platform.



To load the silo with additional bulk bags of material, closely follow the same procedures above.