

## FACT SHEET - LOCKDOWN

### Who are the key workers?

**With the stricter lockdown being enforced by the government, there have been many questions as to what counts as “essential work” and whether staff at [Company X] are still allowed to operate during this period of uncertainty.**

A large number of high-street stores have recently closed their doors for an unknown period of time, placing even greater importance on our freight and logistics infrastructure to ensure everyone has essential supplies.

Due to the nature of many industries which use forklift trucks (logistics, manufacturing and production etc.), many will be classed as key workers, and the government have put out a list giving an overview of the situation.

The government list is [here](#), and while not overly detailed it does include processing, distribution and transport, plus those connected to these industries in a support capacity.

*“...those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods.”*

*“...those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.”*

Your engineers or rental operations may be helping to keep these vital operations going during this difficult time, supporting distribution of identifiably key goods (food, medicine etc.) and the wording suggests that your role in keeping the freight infrastructure running **will** also class you as a key worker.

[This short clip](#) from ITV News reinforces the importance of keeping distribution working as efficiently as possible during the lockdown.

---

The information in this Fact Sheet has been assembled and interpreted to give truck owners and users basic guidance on frequently asked questions. Further important information will be given in the quoted reference documents. Responsibility for meeting the safety obligations discussed rests with the employer, and the FLTA will not accept liability for any problem arising as a result of the content of this document. Technical Bulletins, containing more detailed information and updated as appropriate, are made available free to members of the FLTA SAFE USER GROUP.

---

**Fork Lift Truck Association**, 34B Kingfisher Court, Hambridge Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5SJ  
Tel: 01635 277577 | Fax: 01635 277579 | [mail@fork-truck.org.uk](mailto:mail@fork-truck.org.uk) | [www.fork-truck.org.uk](http://www.fork-truck.org.uk)