



ECKERD COLLEGE

Safe Operating Procedure

(12/03)

CART SAFETY

Carts are used for a variety of hauling operations. The use of carts can make many moving operations safer, for example, when moving chemicals. Carts that are not properly maintained, however, can cause safety problems. Follow the tips listed below to use carts safely.

- Obtain carts that roll and maneuver easily with wheels that can be locked. On four wheeled carts, those equipped with one set of articulating wheels are easier to maneuver than carts with all four wheels stationary.
- Carts with ball-bearings and pneumatic wheels are far superior to lower-quality carts with plastic wheels, especially when moving heavy loads.
- Carts for transporting chemicals should have rails to prevent chemicals from falling off the cart.
- Hand carts for compressed gas cylinders should have means to secure the cylinder to the cart.
- Inspect carts routinely and do not use them if they are not in good repair. Take action to have them fixed immediately.
- Take care when using carts. Make sure you have adequate visibility, watch where you are going, and do not move too fast.
- Ensure that your load is not wider than your cart, especially when traveling in narrow halls and doorways.
- Do not try to transport carts on stairs.
- Use an elevator when possible.