



JOB AID HAZARD AWARENESS INFO

KEGS

Kegs are common item in restaurants, lounges and bars where beer and cider are served on-tap. The modern day keg is typically constructed of stainless steel; however, aluminum is used as well. The standard size keg holds 58.6 L, but smaller sizes of 30L and 20L are also available. An empty, standard size keg weighs about 30 lbs., but when full, it can weigh upwards of 160 lbs. While they are commonly designed with two handles, their awkward size and shape make handling kegs a task that requires careful consideration regarding risks and implementation of appropriate control measures.

Hazards Involved/Arise

- Strains and sprains from lifting heavy kegs (135-160 lbs.)
- Repetitive strain injuries from repeated lifting movements over time
- Incorrect lifting techniques involving awkward postures
- Struck by falling kegs

People Affected

- Bartenders
- Servers
- Delivery drivers
- Shippers/Receivers
- Managers/Supervisors



Existing Controls

- Invest in mechanical lifting device designed for kegs
- Use of cart to transport
- Ensure adequate space in storage areas to avoid awkward postures
- Consider running hoses to storage room to eliminate the need to move kegs once they have been delivered to the worksite
- Installation of ramps to avoid having to carry upstairs
- Educate/train associates on the correct body position and lifting technique for this specific object
- Select smaller kegs to reduce the weight
- Do not stack kegs (especially when full)
- Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is CSA-approved steel-toed footwear

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Content developed by WSPS Advisory Committees

375-BBT-021-IGDO | REVISED JUNE 2017

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