What is CFT?

- The Certified Forklift Technician is a NEW nationally portable, industry-recognizable certification to supported the demand for technicians within the entire forklift industry.
- Developed in partnership between MHEDA and MSSC.

Who is MSSC?

The Manufacturing Skill Standards Council, a 501(c)3 non-profit, is an industry-led training, assessment and certification system focused on the core skills and knowledge needed by the nation’s front-line production and material handling workers. The nationwide MSSC System, based on industry defined and federally endorsed standards, offers both entry-level and incumbent workers opportunities to demonstrate learned skills required in today’s technological jobs.

Who is MHEDA?

The Material Handling Equipment Distributors Association (MHEDA) serves as a premier trade association dedicated to serving all segments of the material handling business community. For over 60 years, MHEDA has provided business resources needed for material handling companies and their employees.
“One of my favorite things about the forklift industry is, as a field technician, you’re very much like your own boss. You get dispatched from your house in the morning, and you’re your own service technician out in the field visiting customers. It’s really rewarding at the end of the day.”

Sam Miller, Field Service Manager, Alliance Material Handling Inc

Who Needs CFT?
- Job Seekers wanting upward mobility, momentum, and financial stability.
- Individuals wanting higher pay and excellent benefits. Salaries range from $27,000-$66,000 and beyond!
- Front-line workers seeking fast track career advancement.

“You can get into becoming a customer service rep, or a salesperson- work in the office... be a dispatcher, work your way up into service management or branch management, or even possibly become an owner. So I look at it that way, there’s so many career opportunities in this industry...”

Kevin Caggiano, Branch Manager, Eastern Lift Truck Co Inc

How Does It Work?
MSSC and MHEDA have partnered to develop the CFT program which provides basic skills needed to maintain and repair systems for most forklift vehicles. CFT includes 55+ hours of instructor-led computer-based training.

How Can You Earn a CFT?
1. Enroll at your local community college or tech-training center
2. Take CFT training from a CFT authorized instructor
3. Take and pass the CFT assessment

How CFT Prepares You?
You will learn the basic skills of how to maintain, how to repair, how to service forklifts.
Key Activities include:
- Basic Safety
- Basic Engines
- Basic Hydraulics
- Brake Systems
- Basic Laws of Electricity
- Batteries
- Masts
- Basic Attachments for Lift Trucks
- Cooling Systems
- Front Drive Axle & Differential
- Gasoline & LPG Fuel Systems
- Use Meters for Testing Electrical Circuits & Components
- IC Electrical Systems
- Oil Cooled Wet Disc Brakes of Electrical and Mechanical Braking Systems
- Steering Systems
- Transmissions

What’s CFT’s Value?
Earning a CFT offers you a strong start in a rewarding and upwardly mobile career of material handling.