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FORKLIFT & TRAFFIC CONGESTION RISK CHECKLIST

1 Forklift Utilization

- ☐ Are forklifts used for short-distance repositioning?
 - ☐ Are forklifts frequently called for minor moves?
 - ☐ Do operators wait for forklift availability?
 - ☐ Are forklifts performing non-value-added transfers?
 - ☐ Is lift equipment shared across multiple departments?
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2 Congestion Points

- ☐ Where do forklifts queue during peak production?
 - ☐ Are aisles blocked during loading/unloading?
 - ☐ Do forklifts cross primary production flow paths?
 - ☐ Are intersections blind or obstructed?
 - ☐ Are staging areas encroaching into traffic lanes?
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3 Idle Time & Labor Impact

- ☐ How often do operators wait for lift support?
- ☐ Average wait time (minutes)?

- ☐ Does congestion increase during shift change?
- ☐ Are downstream stations delayed due to traffic?

Calculate:

Total operator idle minutes per shift: _____

Annual labor cost tied to forklift delay: _____

4 Safety Risk Exposure

- ☐ Near-miss incidents in last 12 months?
 - ☐ Forklift/pedestrian crossover areas?
 - ☐ Temporary workarounds during congestion?
 - ☐ Product manually pushed when forklift unavailable?
 - ☐ Aisle widths compliant with turning radius?
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5 Layout & Flow Alignment

- ☐ Are forklift paths aligned with production flow?
 - ☐ Is product staged efficiently before pickup?
 - ☐ Are transfer zones clearly defined?
 - ☐ Could omnidirectional transfer reduce forklift dependency?
 - ☐ Are short moves handled by mechanical assist instead?
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6 Equipment Dependency

- ☐ Is forklift usage masking poor layout design?
 - ☐ Are frequent micro-moves required between stations?
 - ☐ Could gravity or transfer systems eliminate lift demand?
 - ☐ Is lift traffic interfering with assembly or inspection?
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7 Traffic Optimization Opportunities

- ☐ Separate pedestrian lanes available?
- ☐ Dedicated forklift-only zones defined?
- ☐ Staging zones optimized for flow?

- ☐ Could layout reorientation reduce crossings?
 - ☐ Are material transfers centralized or scattered?
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Final Diagnostic Questions

- How many forklift moves per shift are avoidable?
- Where is the highest traffic density point?
- What percentage of forklift use is reactive?
- Would transfer systems reduce traffic volume?