

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Fork Mounted Work Platforms - There are certain requirements outlining forklift safety standards and the work platform should be made by the manufacturer so as to comply. A custom-made designed work platform can be built by a professional engineer so long as it likewise meets the design criteria in accordance with the applicable lift truck safety standard. These custom-made designed platforms need to be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in truth been manufactured in accordance with the engineers design and have followed all standards. The work platform should be legibly marked to show the label of the certifying engineer or the maker.

There is some certain information's which are considered necessary to be make on the machine. One instance for customized equipment is that these require an identification number or a unique code linking the certification and design documentation from the engineer. When the platform is a manufactured design, the part number or serial to allow the design of the work platform ought to be marked in able to be associated to the manufacturer's documentation. The weight of the work platform while empty, in addition to the safety requirements that the work platform was built to meet is among other required markings.

The rated load, or also called the most combined weight of the tools, people and materials allowable on the work platform have to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck that is required so as to safely handle the work platform could be determined by specifying the minimum wheel track and lift truck capacity or by the model and make of the forklift which could be used together with the platform. The process for connecting the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks should likewise be specified by a professional engineer or the manufacturer.

Various safety requirements are there to ensure the floor of the work platform has an anti-slip surface. This needs to be located no farther than 8 inches above the regular load supporting area of the forks. There must be a way offered in order to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and rotating.

### Use Requirements

The lift truck must be utilized by a qualified driver who is authorized by the employer in order to use the machine for raising employees in the work platform. The lift truck and the work platform must both be in compliance with OHSR and in good condition previous to the application of the system to raise employees. All manufacturer or designer directions that pertain to safe use of the work platform should also be existing in the workplace. If the carriage of the forklift is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions have to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform should be locked to the forks or to the fork carriage in the specified manner given by the work platform manufacturer or a professional engineer.

Another safety requirement states that the rated load and the combined weight of the work platform should not exceed  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the rated capability for a rough terrain lift truck. On a high lift truck combined loads must not exceed one half the rated capacities for the reach and configuration being used. A trial lift is considered necessary to be performed at every task location immediately prior to hoisting personnel in the work platform. This practice ensures the forklift and be located and maintained on a proper supporting surface and also to ensure there is enough reach to locate the work platform to allow the task to be completed. The trial process likewise checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

A trial lift should be performed at each and every job location instantly prior to raising personnel in the work platform to guarantee the lift truck can be located on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is adequate reach to place the work platform to allow the task to be completed, and that the mast is vertical or the boom travels vertically. Using the tilt function for the mast could be utilized so as to assist with final positioning at the job site and the mast must travel in a vertical plane. The trial lift determines that ample clearance could be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the lift truck and the work platform. Clearance is likewise checked in accordance with overhead obstructions, scaffolding, storage racks, as well as whatever nearby structures, as well from hazards such as energized device and live electrical wire.

A communication system between the lift truck driver and the work platform occupants ought to be implemented to efficiently and safely control work platform operations. When there are multiple occupants on the work platform, one person need to be chosen to be the main individual responsible to signal the lift truck driver with work platform motion requests. A system of hand and arm signals need to be established as an alternative mode of communication in case the main electronic or voice means becomes disabled during work platform operations.

Safety standards dictate that staff should not be transferred in the work platform between task sites and the platform ought to be lowered to grade or floor level before any person enters or leaves the platform also. If the work platform does not have guardrail or sufficient protection on all sides, each and every occupant must have on an appropriate fall protection system secured to a designated anchor spot on the work platform. Personnel need to perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or make use of any tools to increase the working height on the work platform.

Finally, the forklift driver has to remain within 10 feet or 3 metres of the forklift controls and maintain visual communication with the work platform and with the lift truck. Whenever the forklift platform is occupied the driver has to adhere to the above requirements and remain in communication with the work platform occupants. These guidelines assist to maintain workplace safety for everyone.