

## Fork Mounted Work Platform

Fork Mounted Work Platform - For the producer to comply with requirements, there are certain standards outlining the standards of lift truck and work platform safety. Work platforms could be custom designed as long as it meets all the design criteria according to the safety requirements. These custom-made platforms have to be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in truth been manufactured according to the engineers design and have followed all requirements. The work platform must be legibly marked to display the label of the certifying engineer or the manufacturer.

Certain information is needed to be marked on the machinery. For example, if the work platform is customized built, a unique code or identification number linking the design and certification documentation from the engineer has to be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the part number or serial to be able to allow the design of the work platform must be marked in able to be associated to the manufacturer's documentation. The weight of the work platform while empty, along with the safety requirements which the work platform was constructed to meet is among other necessary markings.

The most combined weight of the equipment, people and materials allowed on the work platform is called the rated load. This information should also be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the forklift that is needed in order to safely handle the work platform can be determined by specifying the minimum wheel track and lift truck capacity or by the make and model of the lift truck which could be used with the platform. The process for attaching the work platform to the forks or fork carriage must also be specified by a professional engineer or the maker.

Other safety requirements are there to guarantee the base of the work platform has an anti-slip surface. This ought to be positioned no farther than 8 inches more than the regular load supporting area of the forks. There should be a means provided to be able to prevent the work platform and carriage from pivoting and revolving.

### Use Requirements

Only trained operators are authorized to operate or work these equipment for hoisting staff in the work platform. Both the lift truck and work platform need to be in good working condition and in compliance with OHSR previous to the use of the system to hoist employees. All maker or designer instructions which pertain to safe operation of the work platform must likewise be existing in the workplace. If the carriage of the forklift is capable of pivoting or revolving, these functions should be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform needs to be secured to the fork carriage or to the forks in the precise way provided by the work platform producer or a professional engineer.

Another safety standard states that the combined weight of the work platform and rated load must not go beyond  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the rated capability for a rough terrain forklift. On a high forklift combined loads must not go beyond  $\frac{1}{2}$  the rated capacities for the reach and configuration being used. A trial lift is required to be carried out at each and every task site instantly before hoisting personnel in the work platform. This practice ensures the lift truck and be positioned and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even to be able to ensure there is adequate reach to put the work platform to allow the job to be finished. The trial practice even checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

A test lift should be carried out at every job location instantly prior to hoisting staff in the work platform to ensure the forklift could be placed on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is sufficient reach to place the work platform to allow the job to be done, and that the mast is vertical or the boom travels vertically. Using the tilt function for the mast can be utilized in order to assist with final positioning at the task location and the mast needs to travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that enough clearance can be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the forklift and the work platform. Clearance is likewise checked in accordance with overhead obstructions, scaffolding, storage racks, as well as any nearby structures, as well from hazards like for example energized equipment and live electrical wire.

A communication system between the forklift driver and the work platform occupants have to be implemented so as to safely and efficiently control work platform operations. If there are several occupants on the work platform, one individual must be designated to be the primary individual accountable to signal the forklift driver with work platform motion requests. A system of arm and hand signals ought to be established as an alternative means of communication in case the primary electronic or voice means becomes disabled during work platform operations.

Safety measures dictate that workers should not be transferred in the work platform between job locations and the platform should be lowered to grade or floor level before any person goes in or leaves the platform too. If the work platform does not have railing or adequate protection on all sides, every occupant should put on an appropriate fall protection system attached to a chosen anchor spot on the work platform. Personnel have to perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the guardrails or use whichever tools so as to increase the working height on the work platform.

Finally, the driver of the forklift needs to remain within ten feet or three meters of the controls and maintain contact visually with the lift truck and work platform. If occupied by personnel, the driver ought to abide by above requirements and remain in full contact with the occupants of the work platform. These information assist to maintain workplace safety for everybody.