

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Fork Mounted Work Platform - There are certain requirements outlining forklift safety requirements and the work platform has to be built by the manufacturer to conform. A custom designed work platform can be constructed by a professional engineer as long as it also satisfies the design criteria according to the applicable forklift safety requirements. These customized made platforms must be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in fact been made according to the engineers design and have followed all requirements. The work platform ought to be legibly marked to display the label of the certifying engineer or the manufacturer.

Certain information is required to be marked on the machinery. For example, if the work platform is custom-made built, a unique code or identification number linking the certification and design documentation from the engineer must be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the part number or serial to allow the design of the work platform need to 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 made to meet is among other vital markings.

The utmost combined weight of the devices, individuals and supplies permitted on the work platform is called the rated load. This information should likewise be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck which is needed in order to safely handle the work platform could be determined by specifying the minimum wheel track and lift truck capacity or by the make and model of the forklift that could be utilized along with the platform. The method for attaching the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks must likewise be specified by a licensed engineer or the manufacturer.

Different safety requirements are there so as to ensure the base of the work platform has an anti-slip surface. This must be located no farther than 8 inches above the usual load supporting area of the tines. There must be a way provided so as to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and rotating.

### Use Requirements

The lift truck should be utilized by a qualified driver who is certified by the employer in order to use the machinery for hoisting personnel in the work platform. The work platform and the lift truck should both be in compliance with OHSR and in satisfactory condition prior to the use of the system to lift employees. All manufacturer or designer directions which relate to safe operation of the work platform should also be obtainable in the workplace. If the carriage of the lift truck is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions need to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform has to be locked to the forks or to the fork carriage in the precise way provided by the work platform maker or a licensed engineer.

Another safety standard states that the rated load and the combined weight of the work platform should not exceed  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the rated capacity for a rough terrain forklift. On a high forklift combined loads should not go over one half the rated capacities for the configuration and reach being utilized. A trial lift is required to be performed at every task location instantly prior to lifting staff in the work platform. This process guarantees the forklift and be situated and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even to ensure there is sufficient reach to put the work platform to allow the job to be done. The trial practice also checks that the mast is vertical or that the boom can travel vertically.

previous to using a work platform a trial lift should be performed at once prior to lifting employees to ensure the lift could be correctly placed on an appropriate supporting surface, there is enough reach to locate the work platform to perform the required job, and the vertical mast could travel vertically. Utilizing the tilt function for the mast could be utilized to assist with final positioning at the job location and the mast has to travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that sufficient clearance can be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the lift truck and the work platform. Clearance is also checked according to overhead obstructions, scaffolding, storage racks, as well as whichever surrounding structures, as well from hazards like for example energized machinery and live electrical wire.

Systems of communication must be implemented between the lift truck driver and the work platform occupants to be able to safely and efficiently manage operations of the work platform. If there are multiple occupants on the work platform, one person should be selected to be the primary person responsible to signal the forklift operator with work platform motion requests. A system of hand and arm signals must be established as an alternative mode of communication in case the main electronic or voice means becomes disabled during work platform operations.

According to safety standards, workers must not be transferred in the work platform between different task sites. The work platform ought to be lowered so that staff can leave the platform. If the work platform does not have guardrail or enough protection on all sides, each occupant must put on an appropriate fall protection system secured to a designated anchor point on the work platform. Workers must perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or make use of whatever tools to be able to add to the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the driver of the lift truck needs to remain within ten feet or three meters of the controls and maintain communication visually with the lift truck and work platform. If occupied by personnel, the operator needs to adhere to above requirements and remain in full contact with the occupants of the work platform. These tips help to maintain workplace safety for everybody.