

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Fork Mounted Work Platform - For the maker to follow standards, there are specific requirements outlining the requirements of forklift and work platform safety. Work platforms could be custom designed as long as it satisfies all the design criteria in accordance with the safety standards. These custom-made platforms have to be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in actuality been manufactured in accordance with the engineers design and have followed all requirements. The work platform needs to be legibly marked to show the label of the certifying engineer or the manufacturer.

There is several particular information's which are considered necessary to be make on the machinery. One instance for customized machinery 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 need to be marked in able to be linked to the manufacturer's documentation. The weight of the work platform while empty, in addition to the safety standard that the work platform was made to meet is among other required markings.

The rated load, or otherwise called the utmost combined weight of the devices, individuals and supplies allowable on the work platform have to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the forklift that is required 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 that can be used together with the platform. The method for connecting the work platform to the forks or fork carriage should likewise be specified by a licensed engineer or the manufacturer.

Other safety requirements are there in order to guarantee the floor of the work platform has an anti-slip surface. This has to be situated no farther than 8 inches above the standard load supporting area of the forks. There must be a means provided in order to prevent the work platform and carriage from pivoting and revolving.

### Use Requirements

The forklift has to be used by a skilled operator who is certified by the employer so as to utilize the machinery for raising workers in the work platform. The lift truck and the work platform must both be in compliance with OHSR and in satisfactory condition prior to the use of the system to raise personnel. All maker or designer instructions which pertain to safe utilization of the work platform should also be available in the workplace. If the carriage of the forklift is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions should be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform has to be secured to the fork carriage or to the forks in the specified manner given by the work platform maker or a licensed engineer.

One more safety standard states that the rated load and the combined weight of the work platform must not go beyond  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the rated capability for a rough terrain forklift. On a high forklift combined loads should 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 every job site at once previous to hoisting staff in the work platform. This process ensures the lift truck and be placed and maintained on a proper supporting surface and likewise so as to guarantee there is enough reach to locate the work platform to allow the task to be done. The trial process likewise checks that the mast is vertical or that the boom can travel vertically.

A trial lift should be done at each and every job location instantly previous to hoisting employees in the work platform to guarantee the lift truck could be located on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is enough reach to position 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 could be utilized in order to assist with final positioning at the job location and the mast needs to travel in a vertical plane. The trial lift determines that ample clearance can be maintained between the work platform and the elevating mechanism of the lift truck. Clearance is also checked according to storage racks, overhead obstructions, scaffolding, and whichever nearby structures, as well from hazards like energized equipment and live electrical wire.

A communication system between the forklift operator and the work platform occupants must be implemented in order to safely and efficiently control work platform operations. When there are several occupants on the work platform, one individual should be designated to be the main person accountable to signal the forklift operator with work platform motion requests. A system of hand and arm signals need to be established as an alternative method of communication in case the primary electronic or voice means becomes disabled during work platform operations.

According to safety measures, staff are not to be transferred in the work platform between different task sites. The work platform should be lowered so that staff could leave the platform. If the work platform does not have railing or sufficient protection on all sides, each and every occupant ought to put on an appropriate fall protection system attached to a chosen anchor point on the work platform. Staff ought to carry out functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or use any mechanism to be able to increase the working height on the work platform.

Finally, the forklift operator has to remain within ten feet or three meters of the forklift controls and maintain visual contact with the lift truck and with the work platform. If the lift truck platform is occupied the operator should adhere to the above requirements and remain in communication with the work platform occupants. These instructions assist to maintain workplace safety for everybody.