

## Fork Mounted Work Platform

Fork Mounted Work Platforms - There are certain requirements outlining lift truck safety standards and the work platform should be built by the manufacturer in order to comply. A custom made work platform can be made by a licensed engineer as long as it likewise meets the design criteria in accordance with the applicable lift truck safety requirements. These customized made platforms ought to be certified by a licensed engineer to maintain they have in actuality been made according to 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 manufacturer.

Particular information is needed to be marked on the equipment. For instance, if the work platform is customized made, an identification number or a unique code linking the certification and design documentation from the engineer should be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the serial or part number so as 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 when empty, in addition to the safety requirements which the work platform was built to meet is among other required markings.

The rated load, or the most combined weight of the tools, individuals and materials allowable on the work platform need to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the least rated capacity of the lift truck which is required to be able 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 lift truck which could be used together with the platform. The method for connecting the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks should also be specified by a licensed engineer or the producer.

Another requirement meant for safety ensures the flooring of the work platform has an anti-slip surface positioned not farther than 8 inches above the standard load supporting area of the tines. There should be a way offered to be able to prevent the work platform and carriage from pivoting and turning.

### Use Requirements

Only skilled drivers are authorized to work or operate these machines for raising staff in the work platform. Both the lift truck and work platform must be in good working condition and in compliance with OHSR previous to the use of the system to hoist personnel. All manufacturer or designer instructions that relate to safe operation 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 has to be locked to the fork carriage or to the forks in the specific way provided by the work platform maker or a professional engineer.

Various safety ensuring standards state that the weight of the work platform along with the maximum rated load for the work platform must not exceed one third of the rated capacity of a rough terrain forklift or one half the rated capability of a high lift truck for the reach and configuration being utilized. A trial lift is needed to be done at each job location immediately before lifting employees in the work platform. This practice guarantees the lift truck and be located and maintained on a proper supporting surface and also so as to ensure there is enough reach to put the work platform to allow the job to be finished. The trial practice even checks that the mast is vertical or that the boom can travel vertically.

A trial lift should be performed at each job site at once prior to hoisting staff in the work platform to guarantee the lift truck could be placed on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is adequate reach to locate the work platform to allow the job to be finished, and that the mast is vertical or the boom travels vertically. Using the tilt function for the mast can be used to assist with final positioning at the job location and the mast ought to travel in a vertical plane. The trial lift determines that enough clearance can be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the lift truck and the work platform. Clearance is even checked according to scaffolding, storage racks, overhead obstructions, and whatever nearby structures, as well from hazards like for instance live electrical wires and energized equipment.

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

In accordance with safety measures, workers should not be transferred in the work platform between different job sites. The work platform ought to be lowered so that workers can leave the platform. If the work platform does not have guardrail or sufficient protection on all sides, every occupant ought to be dressed in an appropriate fall protection system secured to a selected anchor point on the work platform. Employees have to carry out functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the guardrails or utilize any mechanism so as to increase the working height on the work platform.

Finally, the operator of the lift truck should remain within ten feet or three meters of the controls and maintain contact visually with the lift truck and work platform. If occupied by employees, the operator must abide by above standards and remain in full communication with the occupants of the work platform. These instructions help to maintain workplace safety for everybody.