

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Fork Mounted Work Platform - There are specific requirements outlining forklift safety standards and the work platform needs to be constructed by the maker to be able to comply. A custom designed work platform can be designed by a licensed engineer so long as it also meets the design criteria according to the applicable forklift safety standard. These custom-made designed platforms should be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in actuality been made in accordance with the engineers design and have followed all requirements. The work platform ought to be legibly marked to show the label of the certifying engineer or the producer.

There is some certain information's that are considered necessary to be make on the machine. One example for custom machinery is that these require a unique code or identification number linking the certification and design documentation from the engineer. When the platform is a manufactured design, the serial or part number 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 if empty, in addition to the safety standard that the work platform was made to meet is among other required markings.

The rated load, or the maximum combined weight of the equipment, people and materials allowable on the work platform need to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck which is needed to be able 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 utilized with the platform. The method for fastening the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks must also be specified by a licensed engineer or the producer.

Another requirement meant for safety ensures the floor of the work platform has an anti-slip surface positioned not farther than 8 inches above the normal load supporting area of the blades. There must be a means offered in order to prevent the work platform and carriage from pivoting and turning.

### Use Requirements

The lift truck must be utilized by a qualified driver who is certified by the employer to be able to use the machine for raising staff in the work platform. The work platform and the lift truck must both be in compliance with OHSR and in good condition prior to the application of the system to raise workers. All producer or designer instructions which relate to safe use of the work platform must also be existing in the workplace. If the carriage of the lift truck is capable of pivoting or turning, 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 precise manner provided by the work platform producer or a professional engineer.

Another safety requirement states that the combined weight of the work platform and rated load should not exceed one third of the rated capability for a rough terrain lift truck. On a high forklift combined loads must not go over one half the rated capacities for the reach and configuration being used. A trial lift is required to be performed at every job location immediately previous to lifting workers in the work platform. This practice ensures the lift truck and be located and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even to guarantee there is adequate reach to place the work platform to allow the job to be completed. The trial process also checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

Before utilizing a work platform a trial lift must be performed right away before raising workers to guarantee the lift could be well located on an appropriate supporting surface, there is sufficient reach to put the work platform to perform the needed task, and the vertical mast is able to travel vertically. Utilizing the tilt function for the mast could be utilized to assist with final positioning at the job site and the mast has to travel in a vertical plane. The trial lift determines that enough 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, as well as whichever nearby structures, as well from hazards like live electrical wires and energized device.

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

According to safety measures, staff must not be moved in the work platform between different job sites. The work platform needs to be lowered so that staff can leave the platform. If the work platform does not have guardrail or sufficient protection on all sides, every occupant has to have on an appropriate fall protection system connected to a designated anchor point on the work platform. Employees should carry out functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the guardrails or use whichever mechanism in order to increase the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the forklift driver has to remain within 10 feet or 3 metres of the forklift controls and maintain visual contact with the work platform and with the lift truck. If the forklift platform is occupied the driver has to follow the above standards and remain in contact with the work platform occupants. These instructions help to maintain workplace safety for everyone.