

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

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

Specific information is needed to be marked on the machinery. For instance, if the work platform is custom made, an identification number or a unique code linking the design and certification documentation from the engineer needs to be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the serial or part number to allow the design of the work platform have 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 constructed to meet is amongst other required markings.

The rated load, or also called the maximum combined weight of the devices, people and materials acceptable 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 be able to safely handle the work platform could be determined by specifying the minimum wheel track and forklift capacity or by the make and model of the forklift which could 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 producer.

Another requirement for safety guarantees the flooring of the work platform has an anti-slip surface placed not farther than 8 inches more than the normal load supporting area of the tines. There must be a way offered in order to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and revolving.

### Use Requirements

The lift truck should be utilized by a trained operator who is authorized by the employer in order to use the machine for hoisting personnel 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 utilization of the system to hoist employees. All producer or designer directions that pertain to safe use of the work platform must also be accessible in the workplace. If the carriage of the lift truck is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions must be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform should be secured to the forks or to the fork carriage in the particular manner provided by the work platform producer or a licensed engineer.

Other safety ensuring standards state that the weight of the work platform together with the most rated load for the work platform should not go beyond one third of the rated capacity of a rough terrain forklift or one half the rated capability of a high forklift for the reach and configuration being used. A trial lift is needed to be done at every task site at once previous to raising personnel in the work platform. This practice ensures the forklift and be situated and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even in order to ensure there is adequate reach to place the work platform to allow the task to be finished. The trial process also checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

A test lift must be carried out at each and every job site right away before lifting staff in the work platform to guarantee the lift truck can be positioned on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is enough reach to place the work platform to allow the job to be completed, and that the mast is vertical or the boom travels vertically. Utilizing the tilt function for the mast can be used to be able to assist with final positioning at the task location and the mast should travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that adequate clearance could be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the forklift and the work platform. Clearance is likewise checked in accordance with storage racks, overhead obstructions, scaffolding, and whatever nearby structures, as well from hazards like for instance live electrical wires and energized equipment.

Systems of communication have to be implemented between the forklift driver and the work platform occupants so as to efficiently and safely manage operations of the work platform. When there are many occupants on the work platform, one person should be selected to be the main person accountable to signal the lift truck 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.

Safety standards dictate that workers should not be moved in the work platform between job locations and the platform should be lowered to grade or floor level before anyone goes in or leaves the platform also. If the work platform does not have railing or adequate protection on all sides, each and every occupant must be dressed in an appropriate fall protection system connected to a selected anchor point on the work platform. Personnel ought to perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or use whichever devices to add to the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the driver of the forklift must remain within ten feet or three meters of the controls and maintain contact visually with the work platform and lift truck. When occupied by personnel, the operator ought to abide by above requirements and remain in full contact with the occupants of the work platform. These instructions aid to maintain workplace safety for everybody.