

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Fork Mounted Work Platform - There are specific requirements outlining lift truck safety standards and the work platform needs to be built by the manufacturer in order to comply. A custom made work platform can be designed by a professional engineer so long as it likewise meets the design standards in accordance with the applicable lift truck safety requirements. These custom-made platforms must be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in truth been made in accordance with the engineers design and have followed all requirements. The work platform must be legibly marked to display the name of the certifying engineer or the manufacturer.

Particular information is needed to be marked on the machine. For example, if the work platform is customized built, an identification number or a unique code linking the certification and design documentation from the engineer must be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the part number or serial in order 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 if empty, in addition to the safety requirements which the work platform was constructed to meet is amongst other required markings.

The rated load, or likewise called the utmost combined weight of the tools, people and supplies allowed on the work platform should be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck that is needed in order to safely handle the work platform can be determined by specifying the minimum wheel track and lift truck capacity or by the model and make of the forklift that could be utilized along with the platform. The method for fastening the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks must likewise be specified by a professional 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 should be positioned no farther than 8 inches more than the usual load supporting area of the blades. There should be a means provided to be able to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and revolving.

### Use Requirements

The forklift ought to be used by a trained driver who is certified by the employer in order to use the machinery for raising workers in the work platform. The lift truck and the work platform should both be in compliance with OHSR and in good condition previous to the application of the system to raise workers. All maker or designer instructions that relate to safe utilization of the work platform should also be accessible in the workplace. If the carriage of the lift truck is capable of pivoting or turning, these functions ought to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform must be secured to the fork carriage or to the forks in the precise way provided by the work platform maker or a professional engineer.

Different safety ensuring standards state that the weight of the work platform along with the utmost rated load for the work platform should not go over 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 required to be performed at each and every task location instantly prior to lifting employees in the work platform. This process ensures the lift truck and be positioned and maintained on a proper supporting surface and likewise to ensure there is sufficient reach to put the work platform to allow the job to be finished. The trial practice even checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

A test lift must be performed at every task location right away prior to hoisting personnel in the work platform to guarantee the lift truck could be placed on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is sufficient 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 task site and the mast has to travel in a vertical plane. The test 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 scaffolding, storage racks, overhead obstructions, and any nearby structures, as well from hazards such as live electrical wires and energized device.

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

Safety measures dictate that personnel are not to be moved in the work platform between task sites and the platform ought to be lowered to grade or floor level before any person enters or leaves the platform also. If the work platform does not have guardrail or adequate protection on all sides, every occupant needs to be dressed in an appropriate fall protection system secured to a designated anchor spot on the work platform. Employees should perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or utilize whatever tools to increase the working height on the work platform.

Finally, the lift truck operator must remain within ten feet or three meters of the forklift controls and maintain visual communication with the lift truck and with the work platform. When the lift truck platform is occupied the operator has to abide by the above standards and remain in communication with the work platform occupants. These information assist to maintain workplace safety for everyone.