## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Platform Requirements

For the manufacturer to follow standards, there are certain requirements outlining the standards of forklift and work platform safety. Work platforms could be custom designed so long as it meets all the design criteria according to the safety standards. These custom made platforms have to be certified by a licensed engineer to maintain they have in fact been manufactured in accordance with the engineers design and have followed all standards. The work platform needs to be legibly marked to show the label of the certifying engineer or the producer.

There is some particular information's that are needed to be make on the equipment. One example for custom-made machine is that these require an identification number or a unique code linking the design and certification 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 while empty, in addition to the safety requirements which the work platform was constructed to meet is among other required markings.

The rated load, or likewise called the utmost combined weight of the devices, people and supplies allowable on the work platform ought to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck which is needed so as 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 which can be used along with the platform. The method for connecting the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks must likewise be specified by a professional engineer or the manufacturer.

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

Use Requirements

Only trained operators are certified to operate or work these machinery for raising staff in the work platform. Both the lift truck and work platform need to be in good working condition and in compliance with OHSR previous to the use of the system to hoist workers. All manufacturer or designer instructions that relate to safe utilization of the work platform must also be accessible in the workplace. If the carriage of the forklift is capable of pivoting or turning, these functions ought to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform must be secured to the forks or to the fork carriage in the specific manner given by the work platform producer or a professional engineer.

Various safety ensuring requirements state that the weight of the work platform combined with the most rated load for the work platform must not go over one third of the rated capacity of a rough terrain forklift or one half the rated capacity of a high forklift for the configuration and reach being used. A trial lift is needed to be performed at each and every task site right away prior to hoisting workers in the work platform. This process ensures the forklift and be positioned and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even in order to ensure there is adequate reach to put the work platform to allow the job to be finished. The trial process also checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

A test lift should be performed at every job location right away before hoisting workers in the work platform to ensure the lift truck could be positioned on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is enough reach to locate the work platform to allow the task to be completed, and that the mast is vertical or the boom travels vertically. Using the tilt function for the mast could be used to be able to assist with final positioning at the job location and the mast needs to travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that sufficient clearance can be maintained between the work platform and the elevating mechanism of the lift truck. Clearance is even checked according to overhead obstructions, scaffolding, storage racks, and whichever surrounding structures, as well from hazards like for example live electrical wires and energized device.

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

Safety standards 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 anybody enters or exits the platform as well. If the work platform does not have railing or enough protection on all sides, each and every occupant should wear an appropriate fall protection system secured to a chosen 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 railings or make use of whatever tools in order to increase the working height on the work platform.

Finally, the driver of the lift truck has to remain within 10 feet or 3 metres of the controls and maintain communication visually with the lift truck and work platform. When occupied by workers, the operator must follow above standards and remain in full communication with the occupants of the work platform. These information aid to maintain workplace safety for everybody.