

## Fork Mounted Work Platforms

### Platform Requirements

For the manufacturer to comply with requirements, there are specific standards outlining the requirements of lift truck and work platform safety. Work platforms can be custom made as long as it meets all the design criteria in accordance with the safety standards. These custom designed platforms must be certified by a licensed engineer to maintain they have in actuality been manufactured according to the engineers design and have followed all standards. The work platform must be legibly marked to show the name of the certifying engineer or the manufacturer.

There is a few certain information's that are needed to be make on the machinery. One example for custom-made machinery is that these need 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 ought to be marked in able to be associated to the manufacturer's documentation. The weight of the work platform while empty, in addition to the safety standard which the work platform was made to meet is among other necessary markings.

The utmost combined weight of the tools, individuals and supplies permitted on the work platform is called the rated load. This information should likewise be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck which is required 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 forklift which can be used together with the platform. The method for fastening the work platform to the forks or fork carriage must likewise be specified by a licensed engineer or the maker.

Another requirement intended for safety ensures the flooring of the work platform has an anti-slip surface situated not farther than 8 inches above the regular load supporting area of the blades. There should be a way given so as to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and revolving.

### Use Requirements

The lift truck ought to be used by a qualified driver who is certified by the employer in order to utilize the apparatus for raising employees in the work platform. The lift truck and the work platform must both be in compliance with OHSR and in good condition prior to the application of the system to raise employees. All manufacturer or designer directions that relate to safe utilization of the work platform must also be obtainable in the workplace. If the carriage of the lift truck is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions have to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform should be secured to the fork carriage or to the forks in the specific way provided by the work platform producer or a professional engineer.

Different safety ensuring standards state that the weight of the work platform together with the utmost rated load for the work platform must 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 configuration and reach being used. A trial lift is considered necessary to be performed at every task location at once prior to lifting employees in the work platform. This practice guarantees the lift truck and be situated and maintained on a proper supporting surface and likewise so as to ensure there is adequate reach to position the work platform to allow the job to be finished. The trial practice also checks that the mast is vertical or that the boom can travel vertically.

Before utilizing a work platform a trial lift should be done immediately before hoisting employees to ensure the lift could be correctly situated on an appropriate supporting surface, there is adequate reach to put the work platform to do the required task, and the vertical mast is able to travel vertically. Utilizing the tilt function for the mast could be used so as to assist with final positioning at the task location and the mast must travel in a vertical plane. The trial lift determines that ample clearance could be maintained between the work platform and the elevating mechanism of the lift truck. Clearance is likewise checked in accordance with overhead obstructions, scaffolding, storage racks, as well as whichever surrounding structures, as well from hazards like for example live electrical wires and energized equipment.

Systems of communication should be implemented between the forklift operator and the work platform occupants to be able to safely and efficiently manage operations of the work platform. If there are multiple occupants on the work platform, one individual has to be designated to be the primary person responsible to signal the forklift operator with work platform motion requests. A system of arm and hand 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.

According to safety measures, staff should not be moved in the work platform between separate job locations. The work platform ought to be lowered so that employees could exit the platform. If the work platform does not have guardrail or enough protection on all sides, every occupant ought to be dressed in an appropriate fall protection system attached to a chosen anchor spot on the work platform. Workers have to perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or use any tools so as to add to the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the operator of the forklift ought 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 employees, the operator ought to adhere to above requirements and remain in full communication with the occupants of the work platform. These instructions assist to maintain workplace safety for everybody.