

Fork Mounted Work Platform

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

Specific information is needed to be marked on the equipment. For example, if the work platform is custom-made built, a unique code or identification number 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 so as to allow the design of the work platform must be marked in able to be linked to the manufacturer's documentation. The weight of the work platform when empty, together with the safety standard that the work platform was constructed to meet is among other required markings.

The rated load, or also called the utmost combined weight of the devices, people and supplies permitted on the work platform need to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck that is needed to safely handle the work platform could be determined by specifying the minimum wheel track and lift truck capacity or by the make and model of the forklift that could be utilized together with the platform. The process 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 meant for safety ensures the floor of the work platform has an anti-slip surface situated not farther than 8 inches more than the normal load supporting area of the forks. There should be a means provided in order to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and revolving.

Use Requirements

The lift truck must be utilized by a qualified operator who is authorized by the employer to be able 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 satisfactory condition prior to the use of the system to lift personnel. All producer or designer instructions that relate to safe operation of the work platform must also be existing in the workplace. If the carriage of the forklift is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions have to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform needs to be locked to the fork carriage or to the forks in the specified manner provided by the work platform manufacturer or a professional engineer.

Another safety requirement states that the combined weight of the work platform and rated load should not go beyond one third of the rated capability for a rough terrain lift truck. On a high forklift combined loads must not exceed one half the rated capacities for the configuration and reach being used. A trial lift is considered necessary to be performed at each task location at once previous to hoisting staff in the work platform. This process guarantees the lift truck and be positioned and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even to be able to ensure there is sufficient reach to locate the work platform to allow the task to be done. The trial process even checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

Before utilizing a work platform a test lift should be performed instantly before raising personnel to guarantee the lift can be well located on an appropriate supporting surface, there is enough reach to locate the work platform to do the needed task, and the vertical mast can travel vertically. Using the tilt function for the mast could be utilized to assist with final positioning at the job location and the mast must travel in a vertical plane. The test 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, and any nearby structures, as well from hazards like live electrical wires and energized device.

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

Safety standards dictate that workers must not be transferred in the work platform between task locations and the platform needs to be lowered to grade or floor level before anybody goes in or leaves the platform too. If the work platform does not have guardrail or enough protection on all sides, each occupant has to be dressed in an appropriate fall protection system attached to a chosen anchor spot on the work platform. Workers should carry out functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or utilize whichever tools to be able to increase the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the lift truck driver must remain within 10 feet or 3 metres of the lift truck controls and maintain visual communication with the work platform and with the lift truck. When the lift truck platform is occupied the driver should adhere to the above standards and remain in communication with the work platform occupants. These guidelines aid to maintain workplace safety for everyone.