Fork Mounted Work Platforms

Fork Mounted Work Platform - There are certain requirements outlining forklift safety requirements and the work platform ought to be built by the manufacturer to comply. A customized made work platform can be made by a licensed engineer so long as it also satisfies the design criteria according to the applicable lift truck safety standard. These custom-made designed platforms need to be certified by a licensed engineer to maintain they have in truth been made according to 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 producer.

Particular information is required to be marked on the machine. For instance, if the work platform is custom made, a unique code or identification number linking the design and certification documentation from the engineer must be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the serial or part number so as 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 standard which the work platform was made to meet is among other vital markings.

The rated load, or the maximum combined weight of the devices, people and supplies allowed on the work platform have to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the lift truck 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 model and make of the forklift that can be utilized along with the platform. The method for attaching the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks should also be specified by a professional engineer or the producer.

Another requirement meant for safety ensures the flooring of the work platform has an anti-slip surface located not farther than 8 inches more than the normal load supporting area of the blades. There must be a way offered to be able to prevent the work platform and carriage from pivoting and revolving.

Use Requirements

The lift truck must be utilized by a trained operator who is authorized by the employer so as to utilize the machinery for hoisting workers in the work platform. The work platform and the lift truck must both be in compliance with OHSR and in satisfactory condition prior to the application of the system to raise personnel. All manufacturer or designer directions that pertain to safe use of the work platform must likewise be existing in the workplace. If the carriage of the forklift is capable of pivoting or rotating, these functions must be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform has to be secured to the fork carriage or to the forks in the particular way provided by the work platform producer or a professional engineer.

Other safety ensuring standards state that the weight of the work platform combined with the maximum rated load for the work platform must not exceed one third of the rated capacity of a rough terrain forklift or one half the rated capacity of a high lift truck for the configuration and reach being used. A trial lift is needed to be performed at each task site instantly previous to lifting staff in the work platform. This process ensures the lift truck and be located and maintained on a proper supporting surface and likewise in order to ensure there is sufficient reach to put the work platform to allow the task to be done. The trial practice even checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

Before utilizing a work platform a test lift must be carried out right away previous to raising employees to guarantee the lift can be properly placed on an appropriate supporting surface, there is sufficient reach to put the work platform to perform the required task, and the vertical mast is able to travel vertically. Using the tilt function for the mast could be used in order to assist with final positioning at the job site and the mast ought to travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that adequate clearance can be maintained between the work platform and the elevating mechanism of the lift truck. Clearance is also checked in accordance with storage racks, overhead obstructions, scaffolding, as well as any nearby structures, as well from hazards like for instance live electrical wires and energized machine.

A communication system between the lift truck driver and the work platform occupants need to be implemented in order to safely and efficiently control work platform operations. If there are several occupants on the work platform, one person need to be chosen to be the primary individual accountable to signal the forklift 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 main electronic or voice means becomes disabled during work platform operations.

According to safety standards, employees should not be transferred in the work platform between separate task sites. The work platform should be lowered so that personnel can exit the platform. If the work platform does not have guardrail or sufficient protection on all sides, every occupant should put on an appropriate fall protection system connected to a selected anchor spot on the work platform. Personnel must carry out functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the railings or make use of any tools in order to add to the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the forklift driver needs to remain within ten feet or three meters of the forklift controls and maintain visual communication with the work platform and with the lift truck. Whenever the forklift platform is occupied the driver ought to follow the above standards and remain in contact with the work platform occupants. These guidelines aid to maintain workplace safety for everybody.