Fork Mounted Work Platform

Fork Mounted Work Platform - For the producer to comply with standards, there are certain standards outlining the requirements of lift truck and work platform safety. Work platforms can be custom designed so long as it satisfies all the design criteria according to the safety standards. These customized made platforms need to be certified by a licensed engineer to maintain they have in actuality been made in accordance with the engineers design and have followed all standards. The work platform needs to be legibly marked to show the name of the certifying engineer or the producer.

Particular information is needed to be marked on the equipment. For example, if the work platform is custom-made made, an identification number or a unique code linking the design and certification documentation from the engineer ought to be visible. 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 when empty, along with the safety requirements that the work platform was constructed to meet is among other necessary markings.

The most combined weight of the equipment, people and materials acceptable on the work platform is referred to as the rated load. This information must also be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the minimum rated capacity of the forklift that 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 lift truck which can be utilized with the platform. The method for fastening the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks must also be specified by a licensed engineer or the producer.

Different safety requirements are there in order to ensure the base of the work platform has an anti-slip surface. This has to be positioned no farther than 8 inches above the regular load supporting area of the blades. There must be a means given so as to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and turning.

Use Requirements

The forklift should be used by a trained driver who is certified by the employer in order to utilize the machinery for raising workers in the work platform. The work platform and the lift truck should both be in compliance with OHSR and in satisfactory condition previous to the application of the system to raise workers. All manufacturer or designer directions that pertain to safe utilization of the work platform must likewise be obtainable in the workplace. If the carriage of the lift truck is capable of pivoting or revolving, these functions should be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform has to be secured to the forks or to the fork carriage in the precise manner provided by the work platform producer or a licensed engineer.

Different safety ensuring requirements state that the weight of the work platform combined 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 lift truck for the configuration and reach being used. A trial lift is considered necessary to be done at each task location instantly previous to lifting staff in the work platform. This process guarantees the forklift and be placed and maintained on a proper supporting surface and likewise so as to ensure there is sufficient reach to place the work platform to allow the job to be completed. The trial practice even checks that the boom can travel vertically or that the mast is vertical.

A trial lift must be done at every job location immediately prior to hoisting personnel in the work platform to ensure the lift truck could be positioned on an appropriate supporting surface, that there is enough 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 used to assist with final positioning at the task location and the mast should travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that ample clearance could be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the forklift and the work platform. Clearance is also checked in accordance with storage racks, overhead obstructions, scaffolding, and whichever surrounding structures, as well from hazards like for example live electrical wires and energized equipment.

A communication system between the lift truck operator and the work platform occupants ought to be implemented in order to safely and efficiently control work platform operations. If there are many occupants on the work platform, one person must be chosen to be the primary person responsible to signal the forklift driver with work platform motion requests. A system of arm and hand signals should 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 employees are not to be transferred in the work platform between job locations and the platform should be lowered to grade or floor level before any individual goes in or exits the platform also. If the work platform does not have guardrail or enough protection on all sides, each occupant has to wear an appropriate fall protection system attached to a chosen anchor point 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 utilize whichever devices to be able to add to 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 contact with the work platform and with the lift truck. Whenever the forklift platform is occupied the operator should follow the above requirements and remain in communication with the work platform occupants. These guidelines assist to maintain workplace safety for everybody.