Fork Mounted Work Platform

Fork Mounted Work Platform - For the producer to comply with standards, there are specific standards outlining the standards of lift truck and work platform safety. Work platforms could be custom made so long as it meets all the design criteria in accordance with the safety standards. These custom designed platforms have to be certified by a professional engineer to maintain they have in fact 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 maker.

Certain information is required to be marked on the machinery. For instance, if the work platform is custom built, an identification number or a unique code linking the design and certification documentation from the engineer must be visible. When the platform is a manufactured design, the serial or part number to allow the design of the work platform have to be marked in able to be linked to the manufacturer's documentation. The weight of the work platform if empty, in addition to the safety standard that the work platform was made to meet is amongst other necessary markings.

The rated load, or otherwise called the utmost combined weight of the devices, people and supplies permitted on the work platform ought to be legibly marked on the work platform. Noting the least rated capacity of the forklift that is needed 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 lift truck that can be used along with the platform. The process for attaching the work platform to the fork carriage or the forks must also be specified by a licensed engineer or the producer.

One more requirement meant 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 forks. There should be a way given to be able to prevent the carriage and work platform from pivoting and turning.

Use Requirements

The forklift has to be used by a qualified operator who is authorized by the employer so as to utilize the machine for hoisting workers in the work platform. The lift truck and the work platform should both be in compliance with OHSR and in satisfactory condition previous to the application of the system to lift employees. All maker or designer directions which relate 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 turning, these functions ought to be disabled to maintain safety. The work platform should be secured to the fork carriage or to the forks in the particular manner given by the work platform maker or a licensed engineer.

Other safety ensuring standards state that the weight of the work platform along with the maximum rated load for the work platform should not go over one third of the rated capacity of a rough terrain lift truck or one half the rated capacity of a high lift truck for the reach and configuration being used. A trial lift is needed to be done at each job location immediately before hoisting personnel in the work platform. This practice ensures the forklift and be placed and maintained on a proper supporting surface and even to ensure there is sufficient reach to put the work platform to allow the task to be completed. The trial process also checks that the mast is vertical or that the boom can travel vertically.

Prior to using a work platform a trial lift must be done immediately before raising employees to ensure the lift can be correctly located on an appropriate supporting surface, there is enough 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 can be utilized to be able to assist with final positioning at the job site and the mast ought to travel in a vertical plane. The test lift determines that sufficient clearance can be maintained between the elevating mechanism of the lift truck and the work platform. Clearance is likewise checked in accordance with overhead obstructions, scaffolding, storage racks, and any surrounding structures, as well from hazards like for instance live electrical wires and energized equipment.

Systems of communication have to be implemented between the forklift driver and the work platform occupants in order to efficiently and safely manage operations of the work platform. When there are multiple occupants on the work platform, one person ought to be chosen to be the primary person responsible to signal the forklift driver with work platform motion requests. A system of hand and arm 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 measures dictate that staff should not be transported in the work platform between task locations and the platform needs to be lowered to grade or floor level before any individual goes in or exits the platform as well. If the work platform does not have guardrail or enough protection on all sides, each occupant should put on an appropriate fall protection system attached to a designated anchor point on the work platform. Employees ought to perform functions from the platform surface. It is strictly prohibited they do not stand on the guardrails or make use of whatever devices to increase the working height on the work platform.

Lastly, the forklift operator should remain within 10 feet or 3 metres of the forklift controls and maintain visual contact with the work platform and with the lift truck. When the forklift platform is occupied the operator should follow the above requirements and remain in contact with the work platform occupants. These guidelines aid to maintain workplace safety for everyone.