

Forklift Fork Extensions

Fork Extension for Forklifts - Lift Truck extensions are an excellent choice when there is a need to reach further than your existing forks will allow. In several situations when you have a load that exceeds more than could be safely picked up on your lift truck, an extension could help you do your task safely.

Increasing Lift Truck Productivity

Lift truck extensions offer the extra support and capacity considered necessary when lifting containers, long pallets or really heavy loads. Additionally, the extensions add more length to the blades that helps the individual operating it to be able to reach greater distances. Making use of forklift extensions really saves a company the need to purchase separate equipment to be able to do the job. This can save possibly thousands of dollars while adding more productivity and efficiency options utilizing the machine you already have.

Lots of extensions just slip on top of the standard forklift blades. Extensions can be acquired in order to fit forks which have widths of 4, 5 and 6 inches. It is vital to measure your extensions in order to obtain a correct fit. Knowing that extensions have an inside width that is half an inch wider as opposed to the size stated is vital to ensuring the exact fit. When acquiring your extension size, be certain it is equal to your blade's width. For instance, if you have blades which are six inches wide, you will use an extension that is six inches wide.

OSHA Standards

There are safety standards set by OSHA that regulate the length of extension which you could use. According to the regulation, extensions cannot be longer than 50 percent of the original fork length. Abiding by those rules would help to maintain a safe operation. A yellow powder coat finish is added to the metal forklift extensions so as to prevent rust. The two most common sizes for lift truck extensions in the industry are 60" and 72", even if, other lengths are available.

Securing Mechanism

Securing mechanisms are obtainable in two choices. The first choice connects the extensions onto the lift truck with one pull pin. This is the quick release mechanism. The next and safer alternative is the safety loop which is welded on and offers a more secure attachment of the extension. The lift truck extensions are obtainable either non-tapered or tapered for most pallet and container loads. Triangular extensions are utilized whenever moving cylinder loads.

Cylinder Loads

Loads that comprise drums, coils or pipes are considered to be cylinder loads. Extensions for cylinder loads are likewise constructed of steel. They are built to fit blades up to 2" thick and that are 4" to 5" in width. Secured in place making use of a locking bar, they slip off and on with no trouble. Triangular extensions differ in length from fifty four to sixty inches.

Safety Measures

It is at all times a great idea to use safety precautions when handling any type of industrial equipment and forklift extensions are no different. Inspecting your forklift extensions before use is also a great practice to get into. Once the extensions have been placed onto the forklift, the attaching mechanism must be double checked as well. Personal injury or destruction to the load could occur if the extensions were to become loose and fall off. Adhering OSHA regulations will even help in order to guarantee the safety of the one operating it as well as people working nearby.