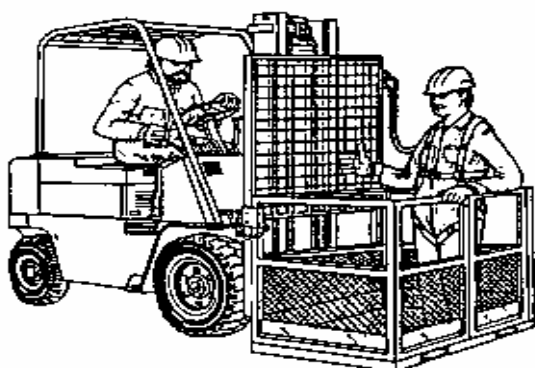


SAFE WORK



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Safety Requirements for Work Platforms Mounted On Industrial Forklift Trucks



This bulletin outlines the safety requirements for work platforms mounted on industrial forklift trucks. It does not include requirements for "order-picker" lift trucks, except where an additional work platform is to be mounted on the forks and workers are expected to access the platform.

Note: Work platforms mounted on forklift trucks must only be used for infrequent or emergency operations where the use of conventional ladders, scaffolding, elevating work platforms or other conventional means of access, is not practical.

Forklift Vehicles

The carrier vehicle itself should comply with a recognized standard, such as the American National Standard ANSI B56.1 "Low Lift and High Lift Trucks." Any modifications or adaptations to the carrier vehicle must be designed and approved by a professional engineer. This includes fork modifications, especially if structural changes are required.

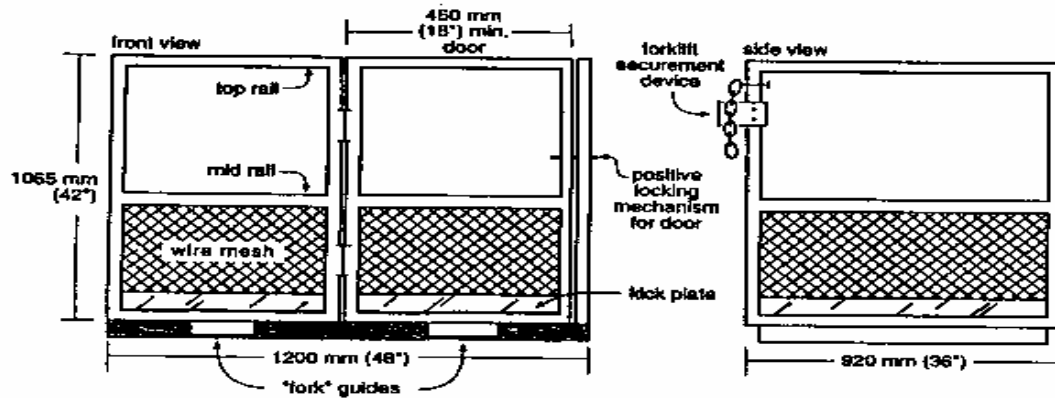
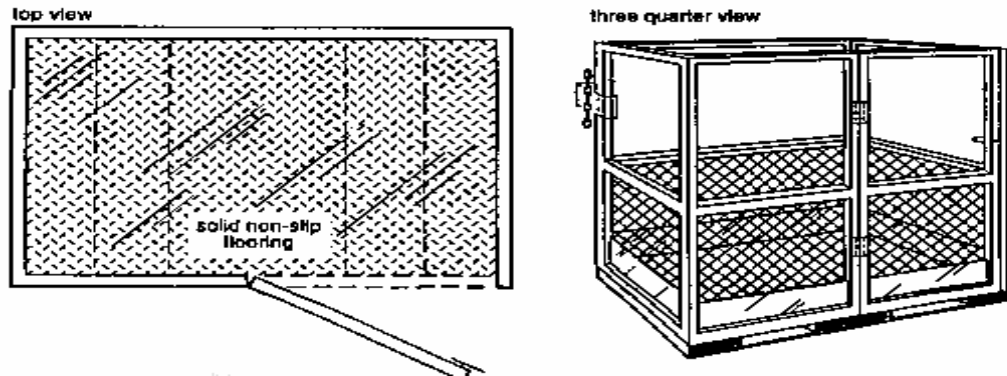
Work Platforms (see diagram on reverse)

Part 28 of the Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Regulation, M.R. 217/2006, applies to every workplace where work takes place using a scaffold or elevated work platform. The platform must be designed and constructed of materials of sufficient strength to ensure that the platform will support **four times** the maximum safe working load. Depending on the complexity and usage of the work platforms, a safety and health officer may ask for a Professional Engineer's approval for the design and fabrication of the platform. Pre-manufactured forklift work platforms provided by the forklift manufacturer are considered acceptable if they meet the design criteria in this bulletin.

Design Considerations

- 1) The platform must be positively secured to the fork carriage or backrest in a manner to support the weight of the platform and not allow platform movement on the forks. The use of a hoisting grade chain or wire rope securement system is acceptable.
- 2) The platform must be fitted with a top guardrail at a height of at least 900 mm (35.4") high and not more than 1,060mm (41.7") above the working surface, with an intermediate rail at between 450 and 530 mm (20.8") above the working surface. A guard rail must have a toe board securely fastened to the posts and extending from the surface of the working area to a height of at least 125 mm (4.9") when there is a risk of falling objects. (Metal screening in lieu of a mid-rail is acceptable).
- 2) Access to the platform must be by means of a door not less than 460 mm (18") wide, meeting the guardrail requirements of number 2, with a positive securing mechanism which will maintain the door in a closed position when the worker is on the platform.
- 3) Moving machinery, including gears, chains, and shearing hazards created by the movement of the lifting mechanism, shall be guarded in a manner to protect the occupants of the platform.
- 4) The platform deck should have a skid-resistant surface.
- 5) The platform itself must be labeled in a manner to indicate:
 - the number of workers who may occupy the platform;
 - the forklift type for which it has been designed;
 - any other appropriate criteria considered necessary for safe operation of (such as use near energized electrical lines).

NOTE: The platform must be designed so that the forklift guides are the only open positions that the forks may enter. The bottom of the platform should otherwise be closed, to avoid misplacement of the forks.

Work**Platforms:****Forklift Employer/Operator Responsibilities**

(Reference CSA B335 "Industrial Lift Truck Operator Training")

- 1) The employer must ensure the forklift is operated by a certified forklift operator, as required under Part 22, section 22.29(1) of M.R. 217/2006. Employers must make available to the operator, and any trainee, a copy of the manufacturer's operating manual for each forklift used on the premises.
- 2) When a worker is on a work platform mounted on a forklift, an employer must ensure that:
 - The forklift is on a stable, level surface, unless it is a rough terrain forklift; and
 - The operator of the forklift remains at its controls when the platform and the forklift are in the elevated position.
- 3) The operator must ensure that the forks are fitted properly into the forklift guides on the platform, and that the platform is secured to the forklift carriage in a positive manner to prevent inadvertent movement.
- 4) The operator must immobilize the forklift vehicle against inadvertent movement before and during the time the work platform is occupied.
- 5) The forklift operator must not leave the controls while workers are on the platform.
- 6) The operator must respond to signals only from the designated signal person occupying the platform.

Fall Arrest System

Employers must ensure that:

- A worker on a work platform mounted on a forklift uses a fall arrest system that meets the requirements of Part 14 (Fall Protection), Part 28, section 28.37(1) Aerial devices and self-elevating work platforms, of the Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Regulation, M.R. 217/2006; and
- The fall arrest system is attached at an anchor point specified by the professional engineer who designed the work platform.

Storage of Work Platforms

- 1) Work platforms, when not in use, must be kept separate from forklift trucks and other machinery for which they are to be used. The operator is responsible to mount the platform prior to work and dismantle the platform after completion of the job.
- 2) Forklift trucks and work platforms must be stationed in an area specifically designated and clear of other material. There must be sufficient room to carry out an unimpeded inspection of the equipment prior to use.
- 3) Visible signage must be provided in storage areas where forklift trucks and work platforms are stationed as a reminder of the importance of maintaining safety standards.