

FORKLIFT- MOUNTED WORK PLATFORMS/ MANBASKETS

- The platform deck shall be equipped with:
 - a guardrail or other structure around its upper periphery that shall be 42 inches high with a midrail. (Chains or the equivalent may be substituted where they give equivalent protection.)
 - Where the guardrail is less than 39 inches high, an approved personal fall protection system consisting of a harness and shortened lanyard providing fall restraint shall be used.
- Elevating Work Platforms shall include:
 - Toeboards at sides and ends which shall not be less than 3 ½ inches high. (EXCEPTION: Toeboards may be omitted at the access openings and on television and movie camera booms.
 - A platform the minimum width of which shall not be less than 16 inches.
- Aerial baskets or platforms shall not be supported by adjacent structure(s) when workers are on the platform or in the basket while in an elevated position.
- Lift controls shall be tested in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations or instructions prior to use to determine that such controls are in safe working condition.
- Belting off to an adjacent pole, structure or equipment while working from an aerial device shall not be permitted.
- Employees shall not sit or climb on the edge of the basket or use planks, ladders, or other devices to gain greater working height.
- Boom and basket and platform load limits specified by the manufacturer shall not be exceeded.
- When elevating personnel with the vehicle stationary the braking systems shall be set.
- Provided they can be safely installed, wheel chocks shall be installed before using an aerial device on an incline.
- If an approved forklift work platform is used to elevate workers, ensure the work platform is securely attached to the forks or mast in such a manner as to prevent tipping, slipping, or falling from the supports.
- Ensure that the rear of the basket has a protective barrier at least six feet tall securely strapped to the rails of the basket to prevent any elevated employees from becoming entangled in the forklift's elevating machinery.
- Always make sure there is an operator in the control position on the lift truck while there is a worker on the elevated platform.
- Do not travel with the workers on the platform (towering) other than to make minor adjustments for final positioning of the platform.
- **Do not operate forklifts within 10 feet of an energized high voltage source** unless danger from accidental contact has been effectively guarded against.
- Never work from a platform attached to a forklift when:
 - exposed to extreme weather conditions (thunderstorms, high winds, heavy rain, extreme heat/cold etc.) unless provisions have been made to for the protection and safety of the workers;
 - winds exceed 25 miles per hour.
- Secure all loose objects or production equipment that may inadvertently fall from the platform.
- Do not use a forklift or other aerial device as a welding ground.
- Do not weld on aerial equipment without first disconnecting both positive and negative battery terminals. Refer to the manufacturer's Operating Manual.