# **Forklift Fork Extensions**

Forklift Fork Extensions - Lift Truck extensions are a terrific choice when there is a need to reach further than your existing forks will allow. In some cases when you have a load that exceeds more than can be safely lifted on your forklift, an extension can help you execute your task safely.

#### Increasing Forklift Efficiency

Forklift extensions offer the added capacity and support considered necessary when lifting containers, long pallets or really heavy loads. Additionally, the extensions add more length to the forks that helps the one operating it to reach greater distances. Utilizing forklift extensions truly saves a business the need to obtain separate equipment to be able to finish the task. This can save possibly thousands of dollars while adding more efficiency and productivity choices with the equipment you already have.

A lot of the fork extensions will simply slip overtop of the lift truck blades. Extensions can be bought in order to fit blades with widths from 4-6 inches. It is extremely essential that you gauge the extensions to be certain of a correct fit. Knowing that extensions have an inside width which is half an inch wider compared to the the size stated is vital to ensuring the correct fit. Whenever buying your extension size, be certain it is equivalent to your fork's width. For instance, if you have forks which are 6 inches wide, you would utilize an extension that is six inches wide.

#### **OSHA Standards**

There is safety standards set by OSHA which standardize the length of extension that you can utilize. According to the guidelines, extensions are not able to be longer than 50% of the actual fork length. Following these rules will help to sustain a safe operation. A yellow powder coat finish is added to the metal lift truck extensions to prevent rust. The two most popular measurements for forklift extensions in the industry are sixty inches and seventy two inches, though, other lengths are obtainable.

## Securing Mechanism

Securing mechanisms are accessible in two options. The first option connects the extensions onto the lift truck with one pull pin. This is the rapid release mechanism. The next and safer option is the safety loop which is welded on and offers a more stable attachment of the extension. The forklift extensions are obtainable in both non-tapered or tapered for most pallet and container loads. Triangular extensions are used whenever transferring cylinder loads.

## Cylinder Loads

Cylinder loads have pipes, coils or drums. The extensions made to fit cylinder loads are usually constructed of steel and can be made to fit forks up to 2" thick and are 4" to 5" in width. Secured in place with a locking bar, they slip on and off with no trouble. Triangular extensions vary in length from 54" to 60".

# Safety Measures

It is at all times a great plan to utilize safety measures when dealing with whatever type of industrial machinery and lift truck extensions are no different. Inspecting your lift truck extensions prior to using it is likewise a great practice to get into. When the extensions have been positioned onto the forklift, the securing mechanism must be double checked also. Physical injury or destruction to the load can occur if the extensions were to become unfastened and fall off. Following OSHA regulations would even help so as to ensure the safety of the individual operating it and others working nearby.