## **Forklift Fork Extensions**

Forklift Fork Extensions - Forklift extensions are a great alternative when you find you need to reach further than your typical forklift will allow. As well, if you find that a load exceeds over what you could securely pick up on your forklift, an extension can help you complete your task safely.

# Increasing Forklift Efficiency

Lift truck extensions provide the extra capacity and support considered necessary whenever lifting containers, long pallets or extremely heavy loads. Also, the extensions add more length to the forks that helps the one operating it to reach greater distances. Utilizing lift truck extensions truly saves a company the need to purchase separate equipment to be able to complete the job. This could save potentially thousands of dollars while adding more efficiency and productivity choices utilizing the equipment you already have.

Many of the fork extensions will just slip overtop of the forklift forks. Extensions can be acquired to fit blades with widths from 4-6 inches. It is extremely essential that you measure the extensions to be sure of a proper fit. Knowing that extensions have an inner width which is half an inch wider than the size stated is paramount to ensuring the correct fit. When buying your extension size, be certain it is equivalent to your fork's width. For instance, if you have blades which are 6 inches wide, you will use an extension which is six inches wide.

#### **OSHA Standards**

OSHA standards for safety have a regulation length for fork extensions. According to this particular regulation, blade extensions cannot be longer than fifty percent of the actual blade length. Following those rules will help to maintain a safe operation. A yellow powder coat finish is added to the metal forklift extensions to prevent rust. The two most popular sizes for forklift extensions in the trade are 60" and 72", although, different lengths are existing.

### Securing Mechanism

There are two individual securing mechanisms existing. The first alternative secures the extensions onto the lift truck with one pull pin. The next and safer alternative is the safety loop which is welded on and provides a more dependable attachment of the extension. The forklift extensions are offered in both non-tapered or tapered for the majority of pallet and container loads. Triangular extensions are utilized whenever moving cylinder loads.

#### Cylinder Loads

Cylinder loads have pipes, coils or drums. The extensions made to fit cylinder loads are usually constructed of steel and could be made to fit blades up to 2" thick and are 4" to 5" in width. Attached in place making use of a locking bar, they slide off and on easily. Triangular extensions range in length from fifty four to sixty inches.

## Safety Measures

It is always a great idea to use safety measures when dealing with any type of industrial machinery and forklift extensions are no different. Inspecting your lift truck extensions prior to using it is also a great practice to get into. Once the extensions have been positioned onto the lift truck, the attaching mechanism must be double checked too. Personal injury or damage to the load can occur if the extensions were to become loose and fall off. Following OSHA regulations will likewise help to guarantee the safety of the person operating it as well as others working close by.