

## ELEVATING PERSONNEL

- Before elevating personnel, forklift travel controls must be in neutral and park brake set.
- Be certain that the mast or boom travel is vertical. Do not operate on a side slope unless the rough-terrain forklift is level.
- Be certain that the path of the platform travel is clear of hazards, such as:
  - ◆ Electrical wires
  - ◆ Overhead obstructions
  - ◆ Scaffolding
  - ◆ Storage racks
- Before elevating personnel, area must be marked to warn of work by elevated personnel.
- Never drive the forklift equipped with a personnel work platform in a raised position or with personnel on the platform.
- Before raising or lowering the platform, alert elevated personnel. Then move the platform smoothly and with caution.
- Any personnel work platform that has been damaged must be tagged and removed from service.

## OPERATOR TRAINING

Safety begins with a safe operator.

Operator training reduces accidents, and it's **required by law**. U.S. OSHA regulation, Title 29, Section 1910.178(I), requires employers in general industry and the construction, ship-yard and cargo-handling industries (except agricultural operations) to ensure that forklift operators are competent, as demonstrated by successfully completing a training course and evaluation. Employers must certify that operators have been trained and must evaluate each operator at least once every three years. Refresher training maybe required sooner if circumstances indicate.

### SAFETY RESOURCES

- ANSI/ITSDF B56.6 - 2005 – Safety Standard for Rough-Terrain Forklift Trucks:  
<http://www.itsdf.org>
- OSHA publications: <http://www.osha.gov/pls/publications/publication.html>
- OSHA/AEM Alliance materials:  
<http://www.aem.org>



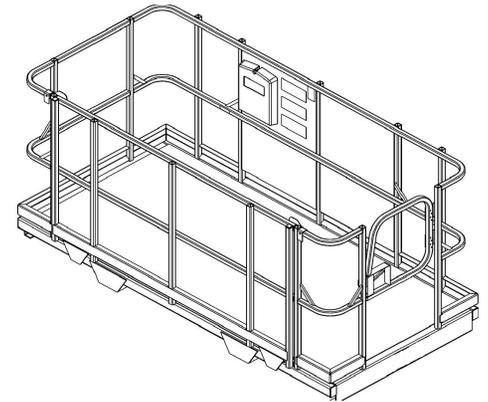
For Forklift Safety Manuals in Spanish and in English, visit:  
<http://shop.aem.org>

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## PERSONNEL WORK PLATFORMS

### PREVENTING ROUGH-TERRAIN FORKLIFT ACCIDENTS



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## USE OF WORK PLATFORMS

### Safe use saves lives.

Rough-terrain forklifts are intended primarily for use as material handlers, but if there is no other practical option available, and **if such use is approved by the forklift manufacturer**, then use of an approved work platform (ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Section 8.24) is allowed.

## APPROVED WORK PLATFORMS

Work platforms must be in compliance with the applicable safety standard: **ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Section 8.24** for use in elevating personnel with rough-terrain forklift trucks.

- The following information shall be provided on the work platform:
  - ◆ Maximum work load, including personnel and equipment
  - ◆ Weight of empty platform
- Make certain that all restraining means are in place, functional and properly used:
  - ◆ Railings, chains, cables
  - ◆ Full body harnesses with lanyards

What you **DON'T** know can hurt you.

## OPERATING WITH WORK PLATFORMS

Operation of the personnel work platform must be in accordance with the applicable safety standard: ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Section 5.15, "Elevating Personnel."

- Be certain that the platform is securely attached to the lifting carriage and forks or quick coupler.
- If fork mounted, ensure forks are prevented from pivoting upward. If the forklift is equipped with a rotator, deactivate the rotation.
- Platform must be centered laterally on the forklift truck.
- Never tilt platform forward or rearward when elevated.
- Do not exceed the load limits for forklifts equipped with personnel work platforms.
- Maintain minimum safe distance from power lines and apparatus.

## WORK PLATFORM LOAD LIMITS

When operating with an approved personnel work platform, be aware of the load limit when lifting personnel in accordance with ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Section 5.17(t). **The combined weight of the platform, load, and personnel must not exceed one-third of the capacity allowed on the load chart** provided on the rough-terrain forklift truck.

- Study the load charts carefully. Operate only within the stability limits.

## CONTROLLING THE WORK PLATFORM

**A trained operator must be in position or available to operate controls from the forklift truck if the platform is not equipped with controls.** When the operator is not in the operating position on the forklift truck, block the truck wheels and apply the parking brake with all travel controls in neutral.

**When controls are provided on the platform,** They must comply with all requirements of ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Sections 8.24(i),(j),(k).



## WARNING

### TO AVOID INJURY:

- **Never drive forklift with a personnel work platform in a raised position or with personnel on the platform.**
- **Operator and work platform personnel must follow work platform safety rules: ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Section 5.15, "Elevating Personnel."**
- **Personnel work platforms must comply with: ANSI/ITSDF B56.6, Section 8.24, "Platforms for Elevating Personnel."**

Know the rules – LIVE by them.