## **Fork Extensions**

Lift truck extensions are a good option whenever you find you have to reach further than your typical forklift allows. Furthermore, if you find that a load exceeds over what you could securely lift on your lift truck, an extension could help you do your job safely.

#### Increasing Lift Truck Efficiency

Forklift extensions provide the extra capacity and support considered necessary when picking up long pallets, containers or really heavy loads. Additionally, the extensions add more length to the blades which helps the one operating it to reach increased distances. Making use of lift truck extensions truly saves a business the requirement to buy individual machinery in order to finish the task. This could save probably thousands of dollars while adding more productivity and efficiency choices making use of the machine you already have.

Several of the fork extensions would simply slip overtop of the lift truck blades. Extensions could be bought in order to fit blades with widths from 4-6 inches. It is really essential that you measure the extensions to be certain of a right fit. Knowing that extensions have an inside width which is half an inch wider than the size stated is paramount to making sure the correct fit. When acquiring your extension size, make certain it is equivalent to your fork's width. For instance, if you have blades which are 6 inches wide, you would use an extension that is 6 inches wide.

#### **OSHA Standards**

OSHA standards for safety have a regulation length for fork extensions. According to this particular guideline, fork extensions cannot be longer than fifty percent of the original fork length. Following these rules will help to sustain a safe operation. A yellow powder coat finish is added to the steel lift truck extensions in order to avoid rust. The two most common dimensions for forklift extensions in the industry are sixty inches and seventy two inches, even though, different lengths are available.

#### Securing Mechanism

There are two individual securing mechanisms existing. The first choice connects the extensions onto the forklift with a single pull pin. The second and safer alternative is the safety loop which is welded on and provides a more stable attachment of the extension. The lift truck extensions are available in both non-tapered or tapered for the majority of container and pallet loads. Triangular extensions are used whenever transferring cylinder loads.

### Cylinder Loads

Loads which have coils, pipes or drums are considered to be cylinder loads. Extensions for cylinder loads are likewise constructed of steel. They are designed to fit blades up to 2" thick and which are 4" to 5" in width. Fixed in place using a locking bar, they slide on and off with no trouble. Triangular extensions range in length from 54" to 60".

# Safety Measures

It is at all times a good plan to use safety measures when handling whatever type of industrial machinery and lift truck extensions are no different. Inspecting your lift truck extensions before use is even a good routine to get into. Once the extensions have been placed onto the lift truck, the securing mechanism must be double checked also. Personal injury or damage to the load can take place if the extensions were to become unfastened and fall off. Following OSHA regulations will also help so as to ensure the safety of the individual operating it as well as individuals working close by.