

CURRENT HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION REQUIRES THAT ALL EQUIPMENT USED FOR LIFTING PURPOSES MUST BE ISSUED WITH A VALID REPORT OF THOROUGH EXAMINATION

ANY DAMAGE SUSTAINED MUST BE NOTIFIED TO A COMPETENT PERSON IMMEDIATELY AND YOU MUST STOP USING THE EQUIPMENT

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS ISSUED FOR YOUR SAFETY AND SHOULD BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES

1. General

Current Health and Safety legislation requires that a risk assessment is completed and a safe method of work established prior to using this equipment. The risk assessment must include the compatibility of the lifting equipment selected.

All operators of this equipment must be fully trained and instructed in a safe method of working including an agreed method of communication using a competent banksman if necessary. Precautions should also be taken to ensure persons are not endangered by overhead activities.

This pallet fork is designed to lift palletised goods or products, based on 1mtr² sized loads with integral apertures specifically for use with forks.

Self Levelling types have a swing-arm governed by a spring-loaded cylinder which enables the pallet fork to self-balance when a load is lifted. For the Standard Manual version one of the two pre-set positions (empty / loaded) must be selected. The fork width is adjustable by means of a pin on either fork and there are two support bars designed to secure a bar mounted box safety net when required.

THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE LOAD marked on the equipment & MUST NOT BE EXCEEDED.

2. Safety Instructions

2.1 This equipment should be subjected to a visual inspection by a competent person prior to use.

2.2 ANY DAMAGE sustained must be notified to a competent person immediately. **YOU MUST STOP USING THE EQUIPMENT** until a thorough examination has been completed and the equipment verified as safe to operate.

2.3 The pallet fork must not be used to lift more than the stated Safe Working Load.

2.4 The lifting appliance must be approved for lifting the weight of the load plus the weight of the equipment.

2.5 The pallet Fork should only be manoeuvred by means of the handles provided specifically for this purpose.

2.6 The pallet fork should only be connected to the lifting appliance by using the lifting eye provided.

2.7 Self Levelling forks have a built in compensator mechanism (spring cylinder). This ensures that the forks remain horizontal whether they are fully loaded or unloaded.

2.8 When a load is placed on the forks it must be of sufficient weight to pull the swing arm up into the vertical position otherwise the forks will tilt forward.

2.9 For the Standard Manual version one of the two pre-set positions (empty / loaded) must be selected

2.10 The centre of gravity of the load must lie within 500mm of the cross beam to which the rear of the forks attach. When a load is to be lifted, the pallet must be fully engaged on the forks so that the end of the pallet rests against the back of the pallet fork and the load secured as far back on the pallet as possible.

2.11 To minimise any risk the lifting movement must be smooth and even with no sudden changes of crane direction.

2.12 When the fork width is adjusted, ensure that the forks are positioned symmetrically either side of the centre point.

2.13 Never walk or place any limbs under a suspended load.

3. Use of Safety Net

3.1 A safety net must be used whenever a load is to be transported above head height or in any situation where a safety net would otherwise be appropriate.

3.2 Before use, the safety net must be inspected for any damage, cuts or security concern. The metal bar across the safety net must sit and align properly on all the safety hooks. Ensure that the safety net is also attached to each side hook, which will remove any slack in the net, ensuring should the load fail the contents will be caught by the net.

3.3 When the unit is to be used with construction cranes or similar where lifting heights are considerable, special safety precautions may need to be taken. If in any doubt about usage of the pallet fork in a particular situation, consult the site Health & Safety Officer.

4. Maintenance

4.1 All maintenance must be performed with the pallet forks standing on a firm level surface.

4.2 Equipment should be subjected to a thorough examination by a competent person at six monthly intervals. Inspect for deformation, cracks, breakage or fractures. If such damage is observed to the forks or a main structural member, the pallet forks must be repaired and retested and a new safety certificate issued.

4.3 Lubricate all grease nipples after every 35 hours of operation.

4.4 Lubricate lock pins with oil.

4.5 Never attempt to dismantle or open the spring cylinder.

This equipment must not be modified or dismantled.

This type of equipment is not considered suitable for use as a method of transferring personnel