

Winches for Forklift

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical tool which specializes in letting out, or winding out or pulling in or winding up the tension of a wire rope, a rope, wire cable or a cable. In its most basic form it is constructed of a spool along with a connected hand crank. More complex winches are found at the heart of machinery like elevators, steam shovels and tow trucks. Sometimes the spool can be referred to as the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies that could be powered by electric, pneumatic, internal or hydraulic combustion drives. Various winches may consist of a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a pawl and ratchet mechanism to be able to prevent it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Usually, the rope is stored on the winch. There is a similar machine known as a capstan that does not store the rope. In sailing, when a line is trimmed on a sailboat, the crew member operates the winch handle with one hand while tending the other in order to maintain tension on the turns. Some winches have a stripper or cleat to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Quite often, a winch is used in huge theatrical productions as a part of the mechanics to transfer scenery. At times there are also winches really imbedded in the stage to help move the many bigger set pieces off and on the stage.

The new generation of winches have been made for water and snow sports enabling the riders to be pulled rapidly across a body of water or of snow. This could stimulate a riding experience that is normally supplied by a wave runner, boat or a snow mobile.