

Forklift Winches

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical device that specializes in pulling in or winding up or letting out or winding out the tension of a wire rope, a rope, wire cable or a cable. In its most basic form it is constructed of a spool together with a connected hand crank. More complex winches are seen at the heart of machines like for example elevators, steam shovels and tow trucks. Occasionally the spool can be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies that could be driven by internal, hydraulic, electric or pneumatic combustion drives. Various winches may include a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a pawl and ratchet device to be able to prevent it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Generally, the rope is stored on the winch. There is similar machinery referred to as a capstan that does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member operates the handle of the winch utilizing one hand while tailing the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Various winches have a stripper or cleat to maintain tension. These designs are called "self-tailing" winches.

Usually, a winch is utilized in large theatrical productions as a part of the mechanism to transfer scenery. Every now and then there are also winches really imbedded in the stage in order to help move the several larger set pieces on and off the stage.

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