

Winches for Forklift

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

Generally, the rope or cable is stored on the winch, nevertheless the capspan, a similar piece of equipment, does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member operates the handle of the winch with one hand while tailing the other to be able to maintain tension on the turns. Various winches have a cleat or stripper to maintain tension. These designs are called "self-tailing" winches.

Often, winches are used backstage as part of the mechanics to move scenery in large theatrical shows. Many times the winches are actually embedded in the stage floor and utilized in order to move large set pieces on and off stage.

Recently, winches have been fabricated in specific designs for water and snow sports. This new generation of winches is designed so as to pull riders quickly across a body of snow or of water. This could stimulate a riding experience that is usually supplied by a wave runner, boat or a snow mobile.