

Winches for Forklift

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical piece of equipment which specializes in pulling in or winding up or letting out or winding out the tension of a wire cable, cable, wire rope or a rope. In its most basic form it is made of a spool with a connected hand crank. More complicated winches are found at the heart of machines such as elevators, steam shovels and tow trucks. At times the spool could be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies which can be driven by internal, hydraulic, electric or pneumatic combustion drives. Several winches can consist of a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a pawl and ratchet apparatus so as to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Generally, the cable or rope is stored on the winch, nevertheless the capstan, a similar machinery, does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member works the handle of the winch with one hand while tending the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Some 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 mechanism so as to arrange staging in big theatrical productions. A lot of times the winches are really embedded in the stage floor and used so as to move huge set pieces off and on stage.

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