Winches for Forklift

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical device which specializes in letting out, or winding out or pulling in or winding up the tension of a wire cable, cable, wire rope or a rope. It its most basic form it is made of a spool along with an attached hand crank. More complicated winches are found at the heart of machinery like for example steam shovels, tow trucks and elevators. At times the spool could be referred to as the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies which can be driven by hydraulic, electric, pneumatic or internal combustion drives. Some winches may consist of a mechanical brake or a solenoid brake or a pawl and ratchet device to be able to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Generally, the rope is stored on the winch. There is similar machine known as a capstan which does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member operates the winch handle making use of one hand while tailing the other to be able to maintain tension on the turns. Some winches have a cleat or stripper so as to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Normally, winches are used backstage as part of the mechanics to be able to arrange scenery in large theatrical productions. Lots of times the winches are really embedded in the stage floor and utilized to move big set pieces off and on stage.

Lately, winches have been made in particular designs for water and snow sports. This new generation of winches is designed so as to pull riders quickly across a body of water or of snow. This could stimulate a riding experience which is normally supplied by a boat, snow mobile or a wave runner.