

SAFE USE OF FORKLIFT JIB ATTACHMENTS

Applies to: Eichinger, Conquip, and similar fixed, adjustable, and telescopic forklift jib attachments

Purpose

Forklift jib attachments convert a standard forklift into a short-reach crane for lifting suspended loads via hooks, slings, or lifting accessories.

They are ideal for handling materials where forks cannot directly access the load.

This leaflet provides safe use guidance to prevent accidents, overloading, or tipping incidents.

Before Use

- Inspect the jib – Check frame, fork pockets, heel pins, locking bolts, and lifting hook for cracks, deformation, or corrosion.
- Verify SWL (Safe Working Load) – Ensure the jib's rated capacity at the given extension and angle exceeds the load weight.
- Check certification – Ensure the jib, hook, shackles, and any lifting accessories have valid inspection tags.
- Confirm forklift capacity – The forklift's rated capacity must be greater than the total load plus jib weight, accounting for load centre distance.
- Ensure secure fitment – Fork pockets must fully engage the forklift tines and be locked with heel pins or retaining bolts.
- Inspect the hook and safety latch – Confirm smooth operation and absence of wear or cracks.
- Check load path – Ensure adequate clearance, stable ground, and exclusion zones around the lifting area.
- Ensure operator competence – Only trained forklift operators should attach or use jib attachments.

During Operation

- Fit the jib in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Attach all safety pins and locking devices before use.
- Always lift vertically from the jib hook – do not drag, side-load, or pull at an angle.
- Keep the load as close to the mast as possible to maintain stability.
- Lift and lower smoothly – avoid jerking or sudden movements.
- Never exceed the rated capacity for the jib's current extension position.
- Maintain full visibility of the load or use a banksman for guidance.
- Keep personnel clear of the load and lifting area.
- Use tag lines to control long or swinging loads safely.
- Lower the load completely before adjusting or extending the jib.

Do Not

- Exceed the rated SWL of the forklift or jib.
- Use if heel pins or locking devices are missing or damaged.
- Lift people or allow anyone to ride on the jib or load.
- Use the jib for towing, dragging, or side-pulling.
- Operate on uneven or unstable ground.
- Modify, weld, or drill the jib structure.

- Leave loads suspended or unattended.
- Use the jib if the forklift's visibility or balance is compromised.

After Use

- Fully lower the jib and remove all loads.
- Detach from the forklift and clean the attachment.
- Inspect for wear, cracks, or damage to pins, bolts, and the hook.
- Tag out and report any defects immediately.
- Store in a dry, secure area on a stable surface or rack.
- Keep records of inspections and tests in accordance with LOLER and PUWER.

Safety Reminders

- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and rated load charts.
- Conduct a pre-use inspection and lifting plan before operation.
- Never exceed the forklift or jib's capacity limits at given extensions.
- Keep exclusion zones clear during lifting.
- Use appropriate PPE: helmet, gloves, safety boots, and high-visibility clothing.
- Ensure periodic thorough examination by a competent person.
- Never use the jib for lifting people or in place of certified man-riding equipment.

Support and Maintenance

For service, inspection, and spare parts, contact your local Lifting Gear and Safety Depot

Depot List

Bristol: 0117 9714883
Avonmouth: 0117 9550456
Newport: 01633 334450
Port Talbot: 01639 540007
Pembroke: 01646 574000
Plymouth: 01752 474488
Fareham: 01329 550988
Redruth: 01209 703990