Forklift Winch

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical piece of equipment that specializes in letting out, or winding out or pulling in or winding up the tension of a wire rope, a rope, wire cable or a cable. It its most simple form it is made of a spool with an attached hand crank. More complex winches are found at the heart of machinery like for example elevators, steam shovels and tow trucks. Every now and then the spool can be known as the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies which could be driven by electric, pneumatic, internal or hydraulic combustion drives. Various winches can include a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a pawl and ratchet apparatus to be able to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Normally, the rope is stored on the winch. There is similar machine known as a capstan which does not store the rope. In sailing, when a line is trimmed on a sailboat, the crew member works the winch handle with one hand while tailing the other in order to maintain tension on the turns. Several winches have a cleat or stripper in order to maintain tension. These designs are called "self-tailing" winches.

Quite often, a winch is used in huge theatrical shows as a part of the mechanism to be able to transfer staging. Every now and then there are even winches really imbedded in the stage to be able to help move the several larger set pieces on and off the stage.

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