

## **Attachments for Rough Terrain Forklifts**

There are in actual fact two different categories of forklifts within the materials handling market, the industrial model and the rough terrain model. Rough terrain forklifts first arrived on the market in the 1940's and had been predominantly utilized on irregular roads, ideal for places where no paved surfaces were accessible, like construction sites and lumberyards.

Rough ground lift trucks typically use an internal combustion engine with a battery for power. The engines can operate on propane, diesel or gasoline. A number of suppliers are playing with rough land lift trucks that consume vegetable matter and run from ethanol. Substantial pneumatic tires with deep treads typify these vehicles to allow them to latch onto the roughest ground type without any misstep or drifting.

A few of the first models of rough ground forklifts had the capability to lift in excess of 1000 lbs, via forks that could slide underneath the item, jack it marginally and move it to a different location. After more than ten years on the market, all terrain forklifts were enhanced with added carrying power, increasing the potential load to more than 2000 lbs. In the 1960's telescoping booms were added, allowing them to stack resources much higher than in earlier years. The telescoping design feature is a staple of most rough terrain lift trucks today. Present models are capable of handling well over 4000 lbs thanks to the constant improvements over time. Telescoping ability has also improved with some versions achieving a height of 35 feet. Worker safety has also become a focus with several rough terrain forklifts currently constructed are outfitted with an enclosed cab for the driver, as opposed to the older open air seating capacity.

The rough terrain lift trucks on the market today both run admirably on unpaved roads and paved floors. This kind of rough terrain forklift is marketed for its' usefulness enabling the opportunity for companies to use one unit to transfer resources from an outside working area into a warehouse.