

Fork Wear Inspection

Fork Wear

Over time, forks will wear down. Inspect the forks weekly (every 40 hours) to determine if the forks are in a safe operating condition. If a fork does not meet the standards outlined below, it must be removed and replaced:

Inspection

- Hairline cracks:** Visually inspect the fork at the heel and mounting hook welds. Remove the fork from service if any cracks are detected. Consult Long Reach for replacement or service instructions.
- Blade and shank straightness:** The straightness of the upper face of the blade and the load face of the shank must not exceed 0.5% of the length of the fork or height of the shank.
- Fork angle:** Remove and replace any fork that has more than 3 degrees deviation from the original specification, when measured between the upper face of the blade to the load face of the shank.
- Fork tip heights:** When mounted to the fork carrier, the difference in height between the tips must not exceed 3% of the length of the blade.
- Positioning lock:** Check the positioning lock to see if it is in good working order. If any fault is found, remove the fork and repair before placing fork back into service.
- Wear:**
 - Blade and shank:** Thoroughly check the blade and shank for wear, paying special attention to the heel. Remove and replace if the thickness is reduced to 90% of the original thickness. The fork shall not be returned to service
 - Some forks include a wear indicator stamp; its purpose is only to estimate the thickness. (Figure 1-1). It is still recommended to follow the above guidelines.



Figure 1-1

- Fork hooks:** Check for wear, crushing, and other deformations on the support face of the top hook and the retaining faces of both hooks. If wear between the fork and the fork carrier becomes excessive, remove and replace the fork.



WARNING

Equipment failure hazard.

Worn forks could damage the load, the attachment, the lift truck, or cause serious injury.

Inspect forks as prescribed and repair or replace any defective parts.