

Gradall Forklift Attachments

The Gradall excavator was the idea of two brothers Koop and ray Ferwerda. The excavator was founded In the 1940's all through World War II, when there was a shortage of labourers. Partners in a Cleveland, Ohio construction company referred to as Ferwerda-Werba-Ferwerda, the brothers faced a huge predicament when numerous men left the labor force and signed up in the military, depleting existing laborers for the delicate finishing work and grading on highway projects. The Ferwerda brothers opted to build a machine that would save their business by making the slope grading job more efficient, less manual and easier.

Their first design prototype was a device with two beams set on a rotating platform which was attached atop a used truck. A telescopic cylinder moved the beams forward and backward which enabled the fixed blade at the end of the beams to push or pull dirt. Soon improving the first design, the brothers made a triangular boom to add more strength. Additionally, they added a tilt cylinder that let the boom rotate 45 degrees in either direction. A cylinder was positioned at the back of the boom, powering a long push rod to enable the machine to be outfitted with either a blade or a bucket attachment.

Gradall introduced in the year 1992, with the introduction of the new XL Series hydraulics, the most innovative adjustment in their machines ever since their invention. This new system of top-of-the-line hydraulics allowed the Gradall excavator to provide high productivity and comparable power to the more conventional excavators. The XL Series put an end to the first Gradall equipment power drawn from gear pumps and low pressure hydraulics. These conventional systems effectively handled finishing work and grading but had a difficult time competing for high productivity jobs.

The new XL Series Gradall excavators proved a significant increase in their lifting and digging ability. These versions were manufactured along with a piston pump, high-pressure hydraulics system which showed great improvements in boom and bucket breakout forces. The XL Series hydraulics system was also developed together with a load-sensing capability. Conventional excavators make use of an operator to be able to pick a working-mode; where the Gradall system could automatically adjust the hydraulic power meant for the task at hand. This makes the operator's overall work easier and likewise conserves fuel simultaneously.

When their XL Series hydraulics became available, Gradall was essentially thrust into the highly competitive market of equipment meant to deal with demolition, pavement removal, excavating and other industrial tasks. Marketability was further enhanced with their telescoping boom due to its exclusive ability to work in low overhead areas and to better position attachments.