

Gradall Forklift Attachments

During the time when WWII created a shortage of laborers, the famous Gradall excavator was founded in the 1940s as the creation of two brothers Ray and Koop Ferwerda. The brothers faced the problems of a depleted workforce due to the war. As partners in their Cleveland, Ohio construction business referred to as Ferwerda-Werba-Ferwerda they lacked the available laborers to do the delicate tasks of finishing and grading on their interstate projects. The Ferwerda brothers chose to make an equipment which will save their business by making the slope grading task easier, more efficient and less manual.

Their first design prototype was a device with two beams set on a rotating platform which was attached over a second-hand truck. A telescopic cylinder moved the beams back and forth that enabled the fixed blade at the end of the beams to pull or push dirt. Before long enhancing the initial design, the brothers built a triangular boom to be able to add more strength. As well, they added a tilt cylinder which let the boom rotate 45 degrees in either direction. A cylinder was placed at the back of the boom, powering a long push rod to enable the machinery to be outfitted with either a bucket or a blade attachment.

Gradall launched in 1992, with the introduction of the new XL Series hydraulics, the most ground-breaking adjustment in their machinery since their invention. This new system of top-of-the-line hydraulics allowed the Gradall excavator to deliver comparable power and high productivity to the more traditional excavators. The XL Series put an end to the first Gradall equipment power drawn from gear pumps and low pressure hydraulics. These conventional systems successfully handled grading and finishing work but had a hard time competing for high productivity jobs.

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

When the new XL Series hydraulics reached the market, Gradall was thrust into the extremely competitive industrial machine market which are designed to tackle demolition, pavement removal, excavating and different industrial tasks. The introduction of the new telescoping boom helped to further enhance the excavator's marketability. The telescoping boom gives the excavator the ability to work in low overhead areas and to better position attachments.