



Product Information
Frequently Asked Questions
PLATFORMS & DECKOVERS

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Q1. What is the difference between a Platform and a mezzanine?

The Equipto Platform is an assembled structure using hardware to attach beams to posts. It is a free-standing structure that can be disassembled and relocated if necessary. A mezzanine is typically a fixed architectural structure; it requires more field welding and uses larger structural beams and posts for greater load capacity. Referring to an Equipto Platform as a ‘mezzanine’ may require an inspector to apply structural code requirements that are beyond the scope and design of Equipto Platforms.

Q2. What is the difference between a Platform and a Deckover?

A Platform is self-supporting, using Posts. A Deckover is supported by rows of Shelving that utilize brackets and slotted angle at the top of the Shelving units to support the decking above. The upper level layout is usually different than the first level, so decking covers the entire first level.

Q3. What is Multi-Level Shelving with Catwalks?

A Multi-Level Shelving system is Shelving that continues upwards for more than one level. While a Deckover can have Shelving on top of it, the 2nd level will usually employ a different layout. Since Multi-Level Shelving continues upward in the same layout, the decking is only added as aiseways in between the rows. These aiseways are called Catwalks. Multi-level Shelving allows for greater load capacity on the upper Shelving units since they are stacked in Shelving “columns”. Shelving capacity on top of a Deckover is limited by the load capacity of the decking.

Q4. What is the weight capacity of the decking?

Equipto Platforms and decking have a capacity of 125 #/sf (pounds per square foot) evenly distributed.

Q5. What are standard height and width regulations?

- Minimum head clearance is 6’8” from the floor to the bottom of the supports (or the first overhead structure) in a majority of building codes. Please check your local codes before designing or ordering an Equipto Platform, Deckover or Catwalk.
- Aisles/Catwalks must be a minimum of 36” wide. Spans greater than 48” may require free-standing Platform modules to be integrated into the Shelving configuration.

Q6. What are Equipto’s different generations of Platforms?

This information is provided for informational and identification purposes only. All current Equipto Platforms are designed according to Generation IV standards. Generation II Railing configuration is still utilized as needed.



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- Generation I Platforms (Gen I) used pallet rack frames to support the beam members.
- Generation II (Gen II) Platforms also used pallet rack frames to support the beam members. Railing posts were mounted to the top of the deck flooring. This type of railing design is still used where needed.
- Generation III (Gen III) Platforms introduced the current style of columns. Intermediate beam cross-section height was 6". Primary beam cross-section height was 10-1/2". Railing posts were mounted to the side of exterior support beams.
- Generation IV (Gen IV) Platforms (*Current Design*) have an intermediate beam cross-section height of 8-1/2" and primary beam cross-section heights of 11-1/4", 14" or 16", depending on length. The flooring, railing and stairs are the same in Gen III and Gen IV.

Q7. What are Platform Modules and their standard sizes?

Modules are standard Platform sections that are available in 4'x4' to 10'x20' sizes (in 2' increments). Various modules are configured together to create the overall Platform requested for an application.

NOTE: Platform spans larger than 12' on a side become significantly more expensive. For example, (2) 10'x10' Platform Modules together are less expensive than (1) 10'x20' Module. Equipto Sales Engineering will create Platforms using the most economical configurations unless specifically directed to use long-span units.

Q8. What heights are available?

PLATFORMS: Standard heights are nominally 4', 6', 8', 9', 10' and 12'.

DECKOVERS: These systems are created primarily from V-Grip shelving, and will typically use minimum 7' 0" high up to 12' 0" high Posts.

Q9. How can special size or height requests be accommodated?

Beams can be field cut and drilled for sizes other than standard (which increases installation cost). For special heights, P/N 9510 Post Extensions (used with special "no-foot" Posts) allow adjustability at increments of 2", up to 22" above the nominal Post height. Special size V-Grip Uprights should only be field-cut from the top to keep Shelf spacing at the typical 1-1/2" increments, beginning at the bottom.

NOTE: Square Posts, needed for larger Modules, are incompatible with Post Extensions and are therefore not height adjustable.

Q10. How do the actual dimensions of Platforms differ from what is listed in the catalog?

PLATFORMS:

- The nominal Platform module dimension is accurate from the outside surfaces of the corner Posts and decking. Platform Post footplates face internally from the outside corners. Tubular bracing adds 1" to each side, and railings add 2-1/4" to each side (Gen IV).



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- The Platform support Post height is the nominal dimension + 1/8”.
- Top of Deck (TOD) height = Platform/Deckover height + floor thickness(es) + 1/8”:
 - Solid Steel or Perforated Steel Grating is 1-1/2” high.
 - Bar Grating is 1” high.
 - Roof Decking is 1-1/2” high and may be used beneath plywood or Tuffdeck.
 - Standard plywood or Tuffdeck is 3/4” thick.
 - Heavy duty plywood or Tuffdeck is 1-1/8” thick.

DECKOVER:

- V-Grip Shelving depth is the exact dimension shown the catalog. The overall width is actually the nominal dimension + 1-5/8” for the width of the last Upright.
- Iron Grip Shelving depth is the exact dimension as shown in the catalog. The widths are actually 36-1/2” or 48” wide for each unit.
- Zip-In Shelving depth is the exact dimension as shown in the catalog. The width is actually 37-1/8” wide for each unit. Available heights for Deckovers are only 87” or 96” due to the Deckover supports that must be used with Zip-In Shelving.

Q11. What features and accessories are available for Platforms?

Standard items available include:

- Railings: 2-rail or 3-rail
- Drop Gates
- Overhang brackets to cantilever up to 24” of extra decking on a Platform side.
- Large variety of Shelving features and accessories.

Q12. What are the different types of Stairways offered?

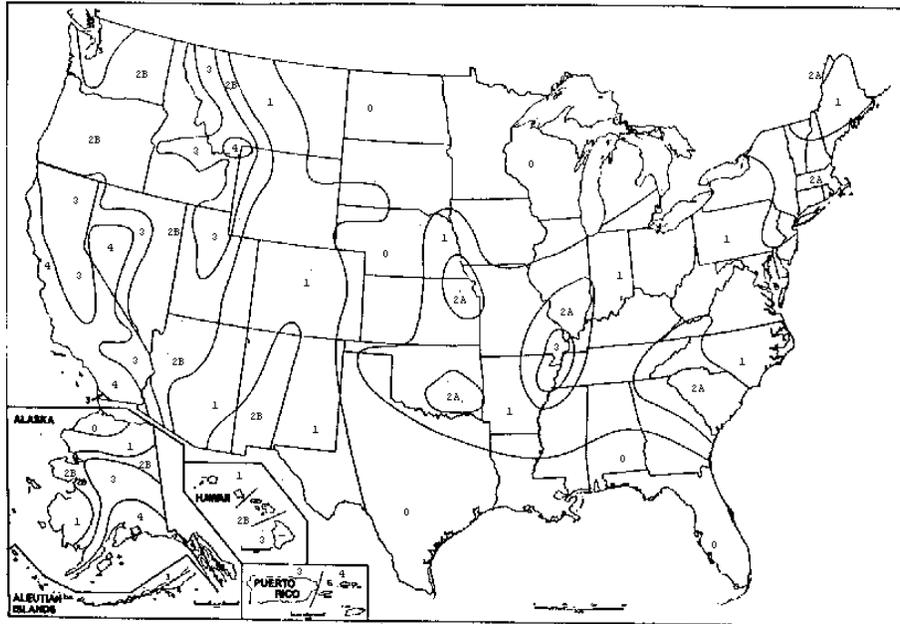
- “F” series Stairways meet OSHA code and the incline is approximately 37-42 degrees. Tread depth is typically 9”. These Stairways are the least expensive and take up the least amount of floor space.
- “U” series Stairways meet BOCA code and the incline is approximately 27-32 degrees. Tread depth is typically 12”, and the hand railings at the top and bottom of the Stairway include extensions.
- “IBC” series Stairways meet IBC code and use the same risers, treads, and extensions as the BOCA Stairways. But, IBC Stairways have an additional guardrail that extends higher and wider than the BOCA railing. Riser covers are also included.
- The actual width of OSHA & BOCA Stairways is nominal (tread width) + 5” for railing. The actual width of IBC Stairways is nominal (tread width) + 12” for railing and guardrail.
- Stairway treads are made from perforated grating to provide an anti-skid surface, increase strength and allow for drainage.
- Larger height Stairways have two-piece risers (12-gauge galvanized) that are spliced together, and include a mid-way floor support frame.



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Q13. What is required for seismic applications?

See chart below for US seismic zones.



Zones 0 and 1 require minimal bracing and floor anchoring. Zones 2A through 4 require additional bracing and anchoring.

Q14. Why can't Platforms or Deckovers be ordered using P/Ns in the catalog?

Equipto Platforms are engineered systems, with many variables that must be considered in order to provide the most efficiency and value as a storage solution. All Platform and Deckover project requests for quote must be submitted to Equipto Sales Engineering.

Q15. What Platform items can be ordered directly from the catalog?

Only preconfigured Catwalks, Crossover Bridges and Landings (with Stairways added if needed) can be ordered as shown in the Catalog. Equipto Stairways can also be ordered via Catalog part numbers.

Q16. Why is a sketch needed to request a quote? What should it depict?

Visual illustration is the best way to clarify what configuration is being requested. A sketch should identify walls, windows, doorways, building columns, piping, electrical panels and any other obstructions so that a Platform or Deckover can be properly configured. Also make note of any overhead joists and piping that may interfere, and mark any floor drains or dips. Please indicate any local code requirements that will affect the configuration.