

Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift New Brunswick - Side loader forklifts are ideal for lifting long and heavy materials in narrow locations such as warehouse aisles, loading docks, lumber yards, etc. These machines have derived their name from the way they unload, load and transport material. Benefits of Side Loader Forklifts v Standard Forklifts It is common for forklifts that rely on the standard counterbalance design to potentially become unstable when unloading or loading heavy items. However, the side loader forklift is specially designed to handle these types of loads, such as long pipes and raw timber, providing much more stability. Having the load face the direction of travel ensures that timber and steel can be easier to maneuver. Side loaders offer a safer, unobstructed view for the operator which is a greater improvement over the standard forklift with its front-carrying design and the fork tines. Since the loads are transported along the side of the forklift instead of across the front, the side loader can travel easier through narrow aisles and doorways. The load may have to be lowered or raised to get past obstacles that can increase the chances of destabilizing and cause dangerous tip-overs. Side loaders eliminate the need for much of that maneuvering. These units help warehouse locations to manage smaller spaces much more safely. Most side loaders are able to lift up to 12,000 pounds and can travel at speeds just above 5 miles per hour but are often equipped with the ability to program travel speeds. This design enables operators to match speed to a certain job. Types of Side Loader Forklifts Class 2 - Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks Side loader forklifts are within the Class 2 Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks. This kind of forklift classification covers electrically sourced narrow aisle forklifts. These are popular in warehouses, covered loading docks and other facilities that use a narrow aisle configuration or require moving between narrow spaces and where long items such as laminates, carpet, bar stock, lumber and furniture are stocked. These machines are used for feeding machine tools and rack storage. Narrow aisle locations are popular in warehouses for allowing maximum storage design and efficiency. These Class 2 side loader forklifts are designed to minimize the area taken up by the forklift truck. These machines create better efficiency and speed while moving, unloading and loading narrow aisle locations. Electric power reduces harmful emissions and allows these machines to be used mainly inside. Internal Combustion Engine Side Loader Forklifts The Class 2 forklifts only apply to side loaders that use electric power. Units that do not rely on electricity do not fall into this category. Side loaders are common at steel and pipe yards and lumber and timber yards. They accurately transport loads from storage areas including racking, flatbeds, and stacking loads in blocks. Side loaders used in these contexts must be able to work outdoors, often in varying temperatures and over uneven surfaces. This means an internal combustion engine and, sometimes, pneumatic tires are a better option for the job. Side loaders are great for these work environments as they are built to handle the length of items and the weight. Picking items up in the middle is vital for loading and unloading long materials safely and efficiently. Side Loader Forklift Design The side loader forklift comes in two basic designs: 1. Stand on; and 2. Sit down. Stand On Side Loader Forklifts Used mostly indoors in applications such as warehouses, the stand on end control has a small platform area surrounded by the forklift's controls, usually located in the middle of the truck, for the operator to stand. There are several advantages to this design. The stand on side loader does not require a seat for the operator which allows for a smaller cab design. A forklift operating with a smaller footprint is excellent for working in high-traffic locations. Especially while operating in reverse, there is greater operator visibility from a standing position. While standing, the operator can turn their body to see the back of the forklift truck while in reverse. In a sit-down machine, operators need to twist their neck and back to get a clear view. This is clearly an advantage in terms of safety as well as comfort. Increased operator visibility also helps to decrease damage to products and facilities. Finally, the operator in a stand on forklift is able to enter and exit the cab quicker than a sit down forklift which can increase workplace efficiency in some applications. Sit Down Side Loader Forklifts Sit-down loaders are more popular than standing loaders. Similar to the side loader stand,

the sit-down unit features a centrally located cab. The difference that a sit down forklift has a raised platform with a seat facing the forklift's control panel. Operator comfort is one of the main advantages of the sit-down side loader. The machine enhances productivity and reduces fatigue when operators can work from a resting position. Customizable Features Customizable bed lengths are a feature and benefit of side loader forklifts. Custom applications can be met on the job with a sixty-inch extension to further the reach of standard bed length side loaders. A side loader cannot be customized before bed length considerations are given to ensure that guide rails and aisle widths can accommodate. One popular feature for these forklifts is multidirectional capability. These side loaders have crab steering which allows two wheels to operate independently from the others. This feature allows the side loader to move in all four directions by changing the direction of the wheels, allowing the forklift to move sideways into narrow storage aisles without making large, swing-out turns or multiple adjustments. Safety is increased with the tighter turning radius and damage is avoided to facilities and items. Efficiency is further achieved by lessening the space and time required to travel around the job. Numerous side loader features can be customized to suit a job site. Customizable options include lift capacities, lift mast heights, tine length, mirrors, lights and more. Certain features are also adjustable, allowing for further customization of the side loader for the particular job application. Travel speed, acceleration time, load limits and breaking force can all be set allowing further job efficiency and increased workplace safety. For all of the above reason, the side loader forklift has become the most popular option for workplaces where space is limited and long loads are involved.