

## **Rough Terrain Forklift**

Used Rough Terrain Forklift New Brunswick - Forklifts rely on two forks to unload, load and transport items. Forklifts fall into two main categories, industrial forklifts and rough terrain forklifts. Industrial forklifts are mainly used in loading docks and warehouse applications with smooth and level surfaces. Rough terrain forklifts are better suited for rocky environments and uneven surfaces. Commonly found at exterior construction sites, rough terrain forklifts have the tires, size and weight capacity to handle heavy loads. The tire type is one of the key differences between rough terrain and industrial forklift units. Common road tires, cushion tires are the main kind found on industrial forklifts. Rough terrain forklifts, on the other hand, are fitted with pneumatic tires, a type of tractor tire allowing for better traction and flotation properties. Industrial forklifts are commonly powered by internal combustion engines although a fuel cell or battery electrical source may be used. Internal combustion engines are mainly used by rough terrain units. Types of Class 7 Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks There are three main types of Class 7 Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks: 1. Straight mast forklifts; 2. Telehandler forklifts; and 3. Rotating telehandler forklifts. Rough terrain forklifts function well in treacherous locations that are often found in construction sites and military settings. A rough terrain forklift also offers increased maneuverability and performance. Additional consideration needs to be given for rough terrain forklift options while raising loads in difficult conditions in order to stay safe from tipping over. As with all forklift operation, the machine must be in a position to remain stable before lifting, transporting or lowering a load. Adequate stability and proper lifting techniques need to be implemented to keep the forklift stable on the ground. Straight Mast Forklifts The straight mast forklift design enables easy transport around rough terrain locations including construction and demolition sites. These forklift trucks provide increased maneuverability and accessibility because it is fitted with big, heavy-duty pneumatic cushion tires. Uneven ground and rough surfaces are no match for pneumatic tires. Most straight mast forklift units have 2WD or 4WD configurations. The majority of straight mast forklifts rely on propane or diesel fuel to equip them for interior short-term jobs. However, these machines are best suited for outside jobs. Straight mast forklifts have a similar lift capacity compared to standard forklift models; ranging from 5K to 36K lbs. Telehandler or Telescopic Handler Forklifts Telehandler or telescopic handler forklift trucks are equipped with a telescoping boom, giving them their name. This specially designed boom allows the forklift truck to pick up loads and place them at differing heights in front of the unit. The reachability of the forklift provides the operator with greater flexibility when placing a load. A standard telehandler forklift is long and low, with two wheels at the very front of the forklift and another pair of wheels toward the rear of the machine. The telescopic boom can be found at the back of the forklift, mounted on a pivot that is attached many feet higher than the frame of the unit. The left side of the machine houses the cab and the hydraulic fluid tank and the fuel tank are found opposite to the cab. Within the frame itself, the transmission and engine are located along the center-line of the forklift. Creating a balanced machine is essential for a well-designed forklift. Having this particular configuration generates a stable environment for lifting, lowering and transporting loads. Telehandler forklifts provide much greater lift heights when compared to a standard forklift. High-reach telehandlers can extend their full load capacity to 56 feet. The compact telehandlers can extend their full load capacity from 18 feet. Load capacities are between 5K to 12K pounds. All-terrain forklifts often include all-wheel steering which allows for greater maneuverability. Thanks to steering features including power-shift transmission, the operator can maneuver the machine in excellent proximity to the work location. The latest telehandler models feature ergonomic upgrades for ultimate operator comfort. Spacious cabs and tilted steering are some of the items redesigned for the ultimate comfort and productive features. High in demand at job sites, these ergonomic options reduce operator fatigue and repetitive stress injuries. A single joystick is a common design for most telehandlers. The joystick is responsible for the hydraulic system and the boom operations. These machines

can use non-marking tires to allow them to be suitable for maintenance in stadiums and on buildings or billboards and sign operations. Rotating Telehandler or Roto Telescopic Handler Forklifts Rotating telehandler or roto telescopic handler forklifts have many features in common with the standard telehandler forklift. These include the rotating telehandler's ability to lift heavy weight to great heights. The turntable or rotating ability add extra panache. Rotating the forklift a complete three-hundred-and-sixty degrees creates a larger working location without the need of repositioning the forklift. Because of this additional feature, rotating telehandlers often have a second joystick to allow operation of the rotation function apart from the lift function. Power-assist steering minimized slip differential on the rear axle for additional traction and four-wheel drive are some of the extra features offered on rotating telehandlers and standard telehandler models. Of course, a machine that can rotate has extra safety considerations to understand. Stabilizers are a rough terrain forklift feature that rotating telehandler models rely on to increase safety while handling rotating loads that are swinging back and forth from each side of the machine. Certain rotating telehandlers operate without stabilizers; minimizing the time it takes to reposition the machine and move to other workplace locations. Rotator telehandlers are usually smaller than their fixed cab counterparts, the standard telehandler. Because of this, their load capacities are also smaller than the standard telehandler. Rotating telehandlers offer load capacities ranging from 4000 to 10,000 lbs. and lift heights between fifteen to eighty feet. Winch attachments can transform rotator telehandlers and standard models into a crane. These forklift attachments can save time and money by preventing a separate crane rental to be required. Advancements for Rough Terrain Forklifts Many attachments are currently available for rough terrain forklifts, such as booms, winches, rotating fork carriages and articulating booms. Forklift attachments are vital for diversifying the machine. They will continue to be developed for years to come. However, the bulk of advancements are expected to be in the form of safety features, built-in to manufactured rough terrain forklifts. Automatic load restriction units and certain safety features have started being implemented. This system weighs a load automatically and then calculates the safe reach distance of the load while considering the extension and boom angle. An alarm will go off once the safe distance is reached. This alerts the operator that immediate adjustments need to be made to the boom angle, reach distance or load weight.