

Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift Inglewood - The side loader forklift is designed for lifting heavy cargo in narrow locations including loading docks, lumber yards and warehouse aisles. Side loaders have earned their name due to their design and the way they transport, load and unload items. Benefits of Side Loader Forklifts v Standard Forklifts Forklifts which operate on the standard counterbalance system may become unstable when loading, transporting or unloading heavy, long loads. 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. Long loads such as timber, steel or pipes are more easily handled because the load is facing in the direction being traveled, reducing the overall width of the equipment and load. 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. Operating in narrow warehouse locations is much safer and more accurate with side loaders. Many models can lift up to 12K lbs. while traveling at speeds higher than 5 miles an hour. There may be the ability to have travel speeds programmed. This feature allows the operator to match speed to a specific application. 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 classification, as the title description suggests, encompasses forklifts that operate in narrow aisles and are powered by an electrical source. Excellent for operating in loading docks and warehouses, these units rely on narrow aisle configuration and are moved between close quarters common for storing lumber, bar stock, laminate and carpet. 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. Because they are designed primarily for indoor facility use, their electrical power source also means that the harmful emissions that would accumulate from the use of an internal combustion engine are eliminated. 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. The side loader design is popular for outdoor use as well in places such as timber and lumber yards, steel and pipe producers and many other similar job sites that require long, heavy loads to be transported to and from storage areas, such as racking, or stacking loads in blocks, or offloading from flatbeds. Side loaders used in these contexts must be able to work outdoors, often in varying temperatures and over uneven surfaces. There are internal combustion models available and they may use pneumatic tires for more stable transport. Side loaders can efficiently load cumbersome items that are long and heavy by securing them in the middle. 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 Stand-on side loaders are found in warehouses and interior applications. They feature a small platform generally found in the middle of the unit that is where the operator stands and is surrounded by controls. There are many advantages to the stand-on design. It creates a more compact machine and smaller cab design since there is no seat for the operator. This creates a forklift with a smaller footprint which is advantageous for traveling within confined locations. There is better visibility for the operator when working in a standing position, particularly while operating the machine backward. In the stand up position, an operator can turn his whole body to view the rear of the truck when reversing direction whereas in a sit down position the operator must twist his back and neck to get a clear view behind. Stand-up models have comfort and safety. Better operator visibility lessens injuries and product damage. Operators on standing forklifts can enter and exit the machine

faster than sit-down cab units. **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. Sit-down forklifts have a raised platform and a seat that faces the control panel of the machine. The advantages of a sit down side loader are mostly in operator comfort. The operator is able to control the forklift from a resting position which decreases operator fatigue which increases productivity. **Customizable Features** Because of the wide range of jobs that use side loader forklifts, the side loader is available in customizable bed lengths. Custom applications can be met on the job with a sixty-inch extension to further the reach of standard bed length side loaders. However, when customizing a side loader feature such as the bed length, consideration must be given to the width of aisles at the relevant jobsite as guide rails and aisles may need adjusting to accommodate the extra sized forklift, which is likely to affect budget and productivity. These machines can function in a multidirectional manner. Crab steering on side loaders refers to having two wheels function independently from the other wheels. 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. More efficiency is attained since there are less space and time needed to move around the job site. It is possible to customize a variety of side loader forklift features for specific jobs. Tine length, mirrors, lights, lift mast heights and lift capacities are some of the custom options available. 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.