

Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift Kentucky - Side loader forklifts are ideal for lifting long and heavy materials in narrow locations such as warehouse aisles, loading docks, lumber yards, etc. These forklifts are given their name by the way in which they load, and unload, material - from the side of the forklift rather than from the front, as with standard forklifts. Benefits of Side Loader Forklifts v Standard Forklifts Forklifts that rely on the original counterbalance system can become unstable when moving long or heavy loads. The side loader forklift can tackle these awkward loads including timber and extensive pipes with greater 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. Much of the maneuvering is eliminated with side loaders. This means warehouse operations can manage in much smaller spaces with fewer modifications while also operating in a safer manner. Programmable travel speeds can be found on many models. Units can lift up to twelve thousand pounds and travel at speeds greater than five miles an hour. 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 often fall under the Class 2 - Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks classification. 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 additionally used for rack storage and feeding machine tools. The narrow aisle units are popular in warehouses as they offer a sleek design that saves on storage. These units are efficient at loading and unloading. Class 2 side loader forklifts have been designed to take up less space by the forklift truck. These machines create better efficiency and speed while moving, unloading and loading narrow aisle locations. Dangerous internal combustion emissions are eliminated due to their electrical power use, making side loaders excellent for interior applications. Internal Combustion Engine Side Loader Forklifts Side loaders that are not powered by electricity obviously do not fall under the Class 2 forklift classification. 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. These machines that are used outside have to deal with uneven ground and different temperatures. Internal combustion models are common. These units rely on pneumatic tires for better transportation. Side loaders are especially popular for these types of applications because the weight and length of materials being handled mean that the side loader forklift can maneuver between narrow stacks, piles or aisles to pick up the long load in their middle which is crucial for loading long items and safely transporting them. Side Loader Forklift Design Side loader forklifts can be either sit down units or stand on machines. Stand On Side Loader Forklifts Stand-on side loaders are often seen in interior locations. It consists of a platform area that is surrounded by controls and usually found in the middle of the machine. There are several advantages to this 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. There are more safety and operator comfort in the stand-up side loaders, ensuring better visibility and less potential for damage or

injury. Operators can get onto and off of the stand up forklift faster compared to a sit-down model and this may increase efficiency in certain situations. **Sit Down Side Loader Forklifts** Of the two basic designs, the sit down side loader forklift is the most popular. Much like the stand on side loader, the sit down design has a cab usually located at the center of the truck. 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. Operators can control the machine from a resting position, greatly reducing fatigue and increasing productivity. **Customizable Features** The side loader has customizable bed length options to be suitable for many jobs. 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. One popular feature for these forklifts is multidirectional capability. Crab steering on side loaders refers to having two wheels function independently from the other wheels. Crab steering allows the unit to travel in all four directions by changing the direction of the wheels. The side loader can fit into close quarters and narrow spaces without needing to make huge turns or adjustments. Safety is increased with the tighter turning radius and damage is avoided to facilities and items. It also increases efficiency by lessening the time and space needed to maneuver around the job site. Several other features on side loader forklifts are often customized based on jobsite application. Lift mast heights, lights, mirrors, lift capacities and tine length and other features are all customizable. 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.