Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift Florida - The side loader forklift is designed for lifting heavy cargo in narrow locations including loading docks, lumber yards and warehouse aisles. 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. Excessive loads including pipes, steel or timber can be handled easier thanks to the design of having the load face the direction of travel. 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. 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 The Class 2 Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks are where the side loader forklifts are classified. This class captures the forklifts that operate in narrow aisles with electrically sourced power. The side loader is useful for handling long and narrow loads in similar locations including lumber, carpet and laminate. They are also suited for rack storage and feeding machine tools. The narrow aisle set up is common in warehouses because it allows for the maximum possible use of a storage area which helps to save on costly square footage as well as travel time between material and loading and unloading areas. Class 2 side loaders take up less space compared to traditional forklift trucks. This design facilitates better speed and efficiency for moving, loading and unloading aisles. 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 Only side loaders that rely on electricity are in the Class 2 forklift classification. Side loaders are found in timber and lumber yards and pipe and steel yards for transporting long and heavy loads. They can move items from flatbed trucks, stack items in blocks or racking. Side loaders used in these contexts must be able to work outdoors, often in varying temperatures and over uneven surfaces. 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 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 several advantages to this design. Stand-on side loaders don’t have an operator seat, allowing for a more streamlined cab design. A forklift operating with a smaller footprint is excellent for working in high-traffic 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. 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. 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. The standard bed length for a side loader was designed to fit a variety of bulky and heavy loads but this can be extended upwards of 60 inches to meet custom jobsite applications. A side loader cannot be customized before bed length considerations are given to ensure that guide rails and aisle widths can accommodate. 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. The smaller turning radius helps to avoid damage to items and the building while increasing safety. More efficiency is attained since there are less space and time needed to move around the job site. Several other features on side loader forklifts are often customized based on jobsite application. 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.