

## **Multi Directional Forklift**

Used Side Loader Forklift Rancho Cucamonga - 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 that rely on the original counterbalance system can become unstable when moving long or heavy 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. A side loader forklift makes much of that maneuvering unnecessary. Operating in narrow warehouse locations is much safer and more accurate with side loaders. 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 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. Narrow aisle locations are popular in warehouses for allowing maximum storage design and efficiency. Class 2 side loaders take up less space compared to traditional forklift trucks. This allows increased efficiency and speed when moving, loading and unloading in narrow aisles. Electric power reduces harmful emissions and allows these machines to be used mainly inside. Internal Combustion Engine Side Loader Forklifts Only side loaders that rely on electricity are in 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. Exterior side loaders need to work outside and on uneven surfaces. This means an internal combustion engine and, sometimes, pneumatic tires are a better option for the job. 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 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. The operator also has increased visibility when operating in a standing position, especially when operating the forklift in reverse. Operators have a better view while standing and reversing compared to having to twist their body, back and neck to see as with a sit-down unit. 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. Sit-down side loaders have a cab that is situated in the center of the machine. The sit-down models have a raised platform and a seat that is opposite to the controls. The sit-down units boast better operator comfort. The machine enhances productivity and reduces fatigue when operators can work from a resting

position. Customizable Features Because of the wide range of jobs that use side loader forklifts, the side loader is available in customizable bed lengths. Popular for heavy and bulky items, the standard side loader has been designed to fit heavy and bulky loads. A sixty-inch extension upwards may be utilized for special jobs. 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. 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. The smaller turning radius increases safety while decreasing damage to product and facilities. Efficiency is further achieved by lessening the space and time required to travel around the job. 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.