Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift Oakland - The side loader forklift is designed for lifting heavy cargo in narrow locations including loading docks, lumber yards and warehouse aisles. 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 It is common for forklifts that rely on the standard counterbalance design to potentially become unstable when unloading or loading heavy items. The side loader forklift can tackle these awkward loads including timber and extensive pipes with greater stability. Having the load face the direction of travel ensures that timber and steel can be easier to maneuver. 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. Side loaders can access narrow aisles and tinier doorways with ease since loads are transported down the side of the machine instead of on the front as with a standard forklift. The load may have to be raised on regular forklifts to travel around obstacles that increase the chances of tipping over. Side loaders eliminate the need for much of that maneuvering. This means warehouse operations can manage in much smaller spaces with fewer modifications while also operating in a safer manner. Most side loaders are able to lift up to 12,000 pounds and can travel at speeds just above 5 miles per hour but are often equipped with the ability to program travel speeds. This design enables operators to match speed to a certain job. 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. 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. 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. 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 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. Exterior side loaders need to work outside and on uneven surfaces. Internal combustion models are common. These units rely on pneumatic tires for better transportation. 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 has two kinds of designs, sit down models or stand on models. Stand On Side Loader Forklifts Used mostly indoors in applications such as warehouses, the stand on end control has a small platform area surrounded by the forklift’s controls, usually located in the middle of the truck, for the operator to stand. 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. While standing, the operator can turn their body to see the back of the forklift truck while in reverse. In a sit-down machine, operators need to twist their neck and back to get a clear view. 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 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. Sit-down forklifts have a raised platform and a seat that faces the control panel of the machine. The sit-down units boast better 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. 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. Side loaders have crab steering to enable them to have two wheels operate separately from others. This design allows the machine to move in all 4 directions via changing wheel direction. The side loader can travel sideways and fit into narrow storage locations without making multiple adjustments or giant swing-out turns. The smaller turning radius helps to avoid damage to items and the building while increasing safety. Efficiency is further achieved by lessening the space and time required to travel around the job. It is possible to customize a variety of side loader forklift features for specific jobs. 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.